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Democracy Dies in Darkness

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2023 · $3

Trump escalates false claims about Biden

On the trail, he plays up unfounded allegations about business dealings

BY ISAAC ARNSDORF

"Manchurian candidate." "Stone-cold thief." "Dumb son of a b----."

Former president Donald Trump is, by his own admission, attacking President Biden in increasingly vicious terms. The attacks on Biden center on allegations that are exaggerated or unfounded, frequently drawing on right-wing media reports about the foreign business dealings of Biden's son Hunter Biden. The president has denied any involvement in his son's affairs, and no evidence has emerged proving otherwise.

Trump's escalation comes amid his commanding polling position in the Republican primary, setting up what many allies hope will be a rematch with Biden in next year's election, as well as the former president's mounting criminal jeopardy, with multiple trials scheduled to occur during the height of the campaign.

The attacks offer a glimpse of potential 2024 battle lines and follow a well-established pattern for Trump of trying to delegitimize his political opponents. During the 2012 election, Trump became the leading promoter of the racist and unfounded conspiracy theory that President Barack Obama was born outside the United States. In 2016, Trump pledged to prosecute Hillary Clinton and encouraged his supporters' chants of "Lock her up!"

Now, Trump is explicitly trying

SEE TRUMP ON A7

In Indian Ocean, a strategic return

Seychelles is the latest small nation where the U.S. is opening an embassy in response to China's rising influence

BY LIZ SLY ON MAHE ISLAND, SEYCHELLES

At the height of the Cold War, the U.S. Air Force tracking station that monitored Soviet satellites from this island's soaring tropical forests was a focus of Seychelles life. The American servicemen and technicians living nearby hosted barbecues and bar nights to which all Seychellois were invited, distributed cookies and milk to local children and taught them basketball.

Then, the Cold War ended, the Soviet Union collapsed and in 1996 the Americans left, dismantling the tracking station and shutting down their embassy — citing budgetary reasons for abandoning what had seemingly become an irrelevant corner of the world.

Today, the compound where Americans and Seychellois partied is home to the Seychelles Tourism Academy, where young islanders training to be tour guides, hoteliers and masseuses take classes, among other subjects, in Chinese — just one small manifestation of a new geopolitical rivalry that has now lured the Americans back.

PHOTOS BY EDUARDO SOTERAS FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

TOP: Students attend a Chinese class at the Seychelles Tourism Academy on Mahe. The U.S. Air Force used to track Soviet satellites from a station at the site. ABOVE: A Chinese construction worker on Mahe.

In June, Seychelles became the latest in a string of small nations around the world in which the United States has established, restored or is planning to open an embassy as part of a broad pushback against the influence China has acquired during more than two decades of neglect or disinterest on the part of the United States.

All are in small islands that had been judged insufficiently strategic by Washington to merit the cost of maintaining a diplomatic presence, including Seychelles, Tonga and the Solomon Islands, where embassies have been opened this year, and Maldives, Vanuatu and Kiribati, where embassies are planned, according to the State Department. Seychelles offers an example of the ways America's absence opened the door to Chinese influence. In the 27 years since the

SEE SEYCHELLES ON A12

Ruling tilts SBA minority program

KEY PROVISION ON RACE STRUCK DOWN

First ripple after justices' blow to affirmative action

BY JULIAN MARK

Thousands of Black, Latino and other minority business owners are scrambling to prove that their races put them at a "social disadvantage" after a federal judge declared a key provision of a popular federal program unconstitutional, extending the U.S. Supreme Court's recent retreat from affirmative action.

The Small Business Administration's 8(a) Business Development program was meant to open a pipeline to billions in government contracting dollars for historically disadvantaged groups. But in July, a federal judge in Tennessee struck down a provision of the program that equated race with social disadvantage.

The decision — one of the first to affect the private sector in the wake of the Supreme Court's June decision upending race-conscious college admissions — throws into disarray an SBA program that has served minority-owned small businesses for about five decades. Legal experts said it could signal trouble for other programs meant to help underrepresented groups win federal contracts, including veterans and women.

Under the new guidelines, being Black, Hispanic, Asian or Native American is no longer

SEE SBA ON A16

Ex-aide to Trump guilty of contempt

Jan. 6 panel wanted to hear from Navarro, who refused to cooperate

BY PAUL DUGGAN

Peter Navarro, a senior Trump White House aide and vocal election denier who has said he helped hatch a legislative scheme to overturn the results of the 2020 presidential race, was found guilty Thursday of contempt of Congress for refusing to cooperate with the House committee investigating the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the U.S. Capitol.

In a federal trial in Washington that included just one day of testimony from three prosecution witnesses, and no witnesses for the defense, the 74-year-old former trade adviser was convicted of the two contempt charges he faced, each punishable by up to a year behind bars.

With right-wing provocateur Stephen K. Bannon, who was found guilty last summer of contempt of Congress, Navarro is the second high-ranking Trump official to be convicted in a criminal case related to efforts to undo President Biden's victory at the polls. Both men are loud

SEE NAVARRO ON A4

THE HUMAN LIMIT

Defenseless under the Arizona sun

A man with schizophrenia left home in heat over 100 degrees. He never came back.

ADRIANA ZEHBRAUSKAS FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Stephan Goodwin's mother, Darae, at home in July on the anniversary of his death. Research shows that schizophrenia may be the most dangerous preexisting condition in a rapidly warming world.

BY SHANNON OSAKA AND ERIN PATRICK O'CONNOR

PHOENIX — On an isolated street a few steps from the looming, cactus-peppered slopes of South Mountain, there was nowhere to hide from the heat. It was 1 o'clock on a Thursday in July 2022, and temperatures had already climbed to around 109 degrees. The sun scorched the surface of the road, sending waves of heat up into the stagnant air.

And Stephan Goodwin was walking right through it.

Goodwin, a 33-year-old with schizophrenia, was heavyset with a bald head that had already begun to blister from the sun's rays. Two days earlier, he had left the home he shared with his girlfriend and her father, carrying a gallon of water and a drawstring bag with some clothes, a pillow, deodorant and two guns. Now, the jug of water was empty, the last drops evaporating in the midday sun. He had taken off his shirt, perhaps in a misguided attempt to stay cool.

SEE SCHIZOPHRENIA ON A8

Turmoil over racial equity roils Sierra Club

Group hired its first Black leader but has lost people of color to layoffs

BY MAXINE JOSELOW

When Ben Jealous became the first person of color to lead the Sierra Club, the prominent civil rights leader promised to create more inclusive working conditions at the nation's oldest environmental group.

"We have to deal with all of the equity issues inside the Sierra Club," he said in January. "Those include, absolutely, issues of gender, as well as racial equity and also pay equity."

But today, the 131-year-old group is in turmoil over its approach to diversity, equity and environmental justice, according to interviews with 12 current and former staffers, most of whom spoke to The Washington Post on the condition of anonymity for fear of facing retaliation or otherwise harming their job prospects.

The tumult illustrates the challenges top environmental groups face in trying to diversify their staffs, despite their recent efforts to reckon with the conservation movement's legacy of racism.

SEE SIERRA CLUB ON A6

IN THE NEWS

Russia's next move As Moscow's forces push toward Kupyansk, analysts are left wondering if the advance is genuine or diversionary. A10

Stagnant test scores Virginia Gov. Glenn Youngkin announced steps to boost academic performance as new data revealed an ongoing struggle to rebound from pandemic losses. B1

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CORRECTIONS

• A Sept. 5 Health & Science article about benzodiazepine addiction incorrectly paraphrased a remark by Alexis Ritvo of the nonprofit Alliance for Benzodiazepine Best Practices. She said patients may lack an understanding of what benzodiazepine withdrawal may entail if they stay on the drugs for more than a few weeks, not three months.

• A headline with a Sept. 4 A-section article on the identification of a lost World War II pilot's remains misspelled the nickname of his unit, the Tuskegee Airmen.

• A Sept. 2 Metro article about the discovered remains of a Greenbelt teacher incorrectly identified the man arrested in her killing as Howard Landon. His name is Harold Landon.

• An Aug. 20 A-section article about U.S. munitions supplied to Ukraine incorrectly said that U.S. production of 155mm artillery rounds at the time was about 20,000 a month. It was about 24,000 a month.

The Washington Post is committed to correcting errors that appear in the newspaper. Those interested in contacting the paper for that purpose can:
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McConnell has a history of keeping health private, even with GOP

@PKCapitol
PAUL KANE

Mitch McConnell brushed off the question as if it was rude for reporters to ask whether he had any health issues.

"Of course not," the Kentucky Republican, then the Senate majority leader, told the Capitol press corps in October 2020.

A week later, in a telephone interview, McConnell grew irritated that he still faced health questions. He directed me to re-watch clips of his speeches during the Supreme Court confirmation hearing for Amy Coney Barrett: "Did you watch any of my speeches? Are you familiar? I am just fine."

He wasn't fine. Just as McConnell is not fine now. There were and continue to be health challenges, but his answers this week are only marginally more revealing than they were three years ago.

"I have nothing to add to that," McConnell told reporters Wednesday, referring to the Capitol physician's brief letters saying the GOP leader was medically fine to keep doing his job. "I think he pretty well covered the subject."

In August 2019, McConnell fell while back home in Louisville, suffering a fractured shoulder that required follow-up surgery. In October 2020, he walked around the Capitol with grievously bruised hands, along with a puffed-up lip, just a few weeks before asking Kentucky voters for another six-year term, slated to end in early 2027 when he would be 84.

No matter. McConnell easily won reelection without ever addressing the mysterious bruises. Senate Republicans have kept easily reelecting him as their leader without really asking about his health or how long he intends to stay in office. After another fall in March that left him with broken ribs and a bad concussion, they welcomed him back, after six weeks away from the Senate, with a big ovation.

So this week, when the Senate returned from its 40-day summer break, McConnell faced another round of all-too-familiar questions about his health after two moments in late July and late August in which he froze up for about 20 seconds during news conferences.

As he's done in the past, McConnell mentioned it in passing and then moved along. He declined to answer questions about the underlying causes of the falling episodes or the freezing incidents. He rejected the idea, floated by some conservative thought leaders, that he should step aside as leader and consider early retirement from the Senate.

"I'm going to finish my term as leader, and I'm going to finish my Senate term," he told reporters. "Thank you," he added, then walked off to end Wednesday's news conference.

Inside the weekly GOP senators-only meeting, McConnell opened up for a couple minutes about the issues he faces. But Republicans said it was a similar rundown as to what was reported Tuesday in a letter from Brian P. Monahan, the Capitol physician: Neurologists have examined him, there is no evidence he has suffered a stroke or seizure, and that the freezing is likely related to the concussion in March.

No questions were asked, according to GOP senators, and the discussion quickly moved on to the political agenda, including a detailed polling presentation about the politics of abortion from leaders of the McConnell-aligned Senate Leadership Fund.

By McConnell's standards, friends considered this brief explanation downright revelatory. Some have been quietly encouraging him to be more open about these issues as an example of personal strength.

"He was more transparent, which I'm glad he did. I don't think, sort of, keeping things close to the vest served his interests and created a lot of speculation," said Sen. John Cornyn (R-Tex.), a close ally. "So I think this is a positive development."

RICKY CARIOTI/THE WASHINGTON POST

Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) following a Republican policy luncheon at the Capitol on Wednesday.

Being that forthcoming about his health, Cornyn noted, "is not his style."

As a child, McConnell battled polio, including trips to the treatment center in Warm Springs, Ga., where then-President Franklin D. Roosevelt received assistance, before the vaccine came along and largely eradicated the disease in the United States.

McConnell has at times embraced that as part of his identity, calling his autobiography "The Long Game" to explain how he spent nearly two years as a child not allowed to walk. He eventually played on his high school baseball team, won his student council presidency and, earlier this year, became the longest-serving Senate floor leader in history.

That's the long approach to politics.

But McConnell, 81, can sometimes go years in between discussions about his childhood struggles, hailing from a generation that often sees admission of personal health problems as a sign of weakness.

There's been no discussion about the relatively common struggles for elderly survivors of polio. Federal research has found that up to 40 percent of childhood polio survivors develop very similar symptoms later in life, leading to muscle weakness and atrophy, particularly in the legs, causing balance issues.

Instead, McConnell takes a similar approach as President Biden, 80, in terms of questions about age and health: talk and act tough.

Rather than bike rides at the beach — Biden's preferred photo op to demonstrate vitality — McConnell used his first floor speech Tuesday to rattle off all the trips he had made around his state during the Senate's summer break.

His Senate Leadership Fund super PAC told Fox News Wednesday that McConnell, in August alone, helped the super PAC and nonprofit group One Nation secure almost $50 million in commitments to help GOP Senate candidates next year. Senators left Wednesday's lunch marveling at McConnell's hard work.

"I think everybody left feeling very good about where he's at," Sen. John Thune (R-S.D.), another McConnell ally, told reporters.

Yet they had no greater insight into McConnell's underlying health problems, no certainty of whether these freezing moments would continue or whether more falls would be in the future.

But that's part of the Senate culture, where personal health receives the "there but for the grace of God go I" approach.

"Every senator speaks for themselves," Sen. John Barrasso (R-Wyo.), the No. 3 GOP leader, said.

This has become a recurring theme in this year's Senate, as McConnell and Sens. John Fetterman (D-Pa.) and Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.) have all undergone health issues that have caused them to take extended leave from the Capitol.

In each instance, the senators have dealt with transparency in different ways. Feinstein, 90, went nearly two months without disclosing that her bout with shingles also caused much more severe side effects, including encephalitis, which is swelling of the brain. While Fetterman was criticized last year during his campaign for not being fully transparent, he has released detailed reports from doctors this year about the severe depression he's suffered as a result from his stroke in May 2022.

Barrasso has been public in releasing updates on his wife's "profound, advanced" battle with brain cancer.

"She's not been able to be places that she would like to be, and normally people see her, because they see us together," Barrasso said Wednesday. "You share the diagnosis [with your constituents], you share that we appreciate all the prayers and kind wishes."

But McConnell remains elusive. Almost three years later, he's still never revealed what caused his bruised hands and lip. That's not likely to change.

"I'm just fine. And I can't believe y'all have played with that all week long," he said in that October 2020 interview, angry that reporters kept asking him questions about his health. "It is not an issue with me."

Kavanaugh is optimistic Supreme Court will see ethics changes

BY ROBERT BARNES

CLEVELAND — Justice Brett M. Kavanaugh said Thursday that he is "hopeful" the Supreme Court soon will take specific steps to deal with ethics issues at the court and boost public confidence in the institution.

Kavanaugh made the comments while speaking at a conference of judges and lawyers, after he was asked by Judge Stephanie Dawkins Davis of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 6th Circuit about "perceived ethics issues" at the high court.

"The chief justice spoke about that in May and said that we're continuing to work on those issues and that is accurate, we are continuing to work on those issues," Kavanaugh said, referring to a speech by Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr. "And I'm hopeful that there will be some concrete steps taken soon on that."

Kavanaugh said of his colleagues: "We're nine public servants that are hard-working and care a lot about the court and care a lot about the judiciary as a whole." The justices "want that respect for the institution to be shared by the American people," he added.

The high court has come under increasing pressure over ethics in recent years after a cascade of revelations about political activity by Virginia "Ginni" Thomas, the wife of Justice Clarence Thomas; lavish vacation travel by Justices Thomas and Samuel A. Alito Jr. that was paid for by Republican benefactors and not reported on annual disclosure forms; and property sales by Thomas that also weren't disclosed.

Both Thomas and Alito maintain that the ethics rules do not require disclosure of trips paid for by friends — and did not require reporting of private jet travel until a rules change earlier this year. Experts are divided on that question, but generally agree that Thomas should have reported his property sale to Harlow Crow, a billionaire businessman.

The Senate Judiciary Committee advanced legislation in July that would require the justices to follow disclosure rules as strict as those that apply to members of Congress — including more detailed and timely information about privately sponsored travel, for example. The bill, which is opposed by Republicans and unlikely to succeed, would also tighten recusal requirements for the justices and create an ethics code for the high court.

Roberts has said the court's unique role as the court of last resort make it impossible for justices to follow the same ethical guidelines that govern other federal judges. And he has resisted congressional efforts to impose a specific ethics code on the high court, saying it would raise serious questions about the separation of powers.

The chief justice has not spoken on the topic since his May speech. In the closed environment that is the Supreme Court, Kavanaugh's remarks Thursday could be seen as a signal that the justices have made progress, even though it has been more than four years since Justice Elena Kagan made similar comments about the court working on an ethics code.

The criticism of the court has fallen along partisan lines, with influential Republicans leaders saying it is part of an effort to raise legitimacy questions about a court that has used its 6 to 3 conservative majority to change the jurisprudence on issues such as gun control, affirmative action and most importantly, abortion.

Kavanaugh seemed to acknowledge on Thursday that the changes have raised questions.

One of the themes he's tried to press in his five years since being nominated, he said, is that the court is "an institution of law, not of politics, not of partisanship." He talked about working years ago as a close aide to President George W. Bush and said justices have to show they have made the transition from political partisans to "independent judicial thinkers."

POLITICS & THE NATION

At Texas attorney general's trial, all the Senate's a stage

Impeachment case is about political theater as much as evidence

BY EVA RUTH MORAVEC AND MOLLY HENNESSY-FISKE

AUSTIN — Because the defendant is the Republican attorney general of the red state of Texas, and the jury is its strongly Republican state Senate, it should have been no surprise that prosecutors would want to establish the arch-conservative bona fides of the first person they would call to testify against Ken Paxton.

"Are you a RINO?" lawyer Rusty Hardin asked Jeff Mateer, Paxton's former top deputy turned whistleblower, using the derisive acronym that the right invokes when suspicious that someone is "Republican in name only." And what about Mateer's co-workers in the AG's office? Were they members of the "deep state"?

Two days of motions and testimony in the historic impeachment trial — with questions like these, as well as others about witnesses' opposition to transgender rights and their evangelical beliefs — have quickly revealed how unusual a proceeding it is. Paxton is charged with bribery, unfitness for office and abuse of public trust, and what's taking place in the grand, chandeliered Senate chamber is about political theater as much as evidence and legal arguments.

"It's amazing to me to watch a trial where you spend the first 10 minutes of a witness's testimony discussing how religious they are," said Mike Golden, a lecturer at the University of Texas at Austin School of Law. "Those things are meaningful when you consider their audience."

To win a conviction forcing the 60-year-old Paxton from public office, possibly forever, prosecutors will need two-thirds of the senators who will vote on his guilt or innocence. If all 12 Senate Democrats agree to convict, that means at least nine Republicans will have to join them.

"The strongest witnesses are dyed-in-the-wool conservatives, evangelical Christians [who were] handpicked by Ken Paxton," Golden noted. They help prosecutors send a message to those GOP lawmakers: "These are people who you should think are credible because they're the kind of people who support you."

Mateer, for instance, was a Trump administration nominee for a federal judgeship — until his chances tanked because of controversial past speeches, like one in which he declared that transgender children were proof "Satan's plan is working." After answering the RINO question by describing himself as "certainly far right of center," he testified Wednesday that Paxton had used his office to benefit a wealthy donor, Austin developer Nate Paul, who in turn hired Paxton's then-mistress. Mateer called the attorney general's conduct "immoral, unethical and … illegal."

Listening from her seat on the Senate floor was the defendant's wife, Sen. Angela Paxton, who will abstain from voting on her husband's future. She fiddled with her wedding ring as Mateer recounted how his boss admitted the affair to him and other staffers "and asked for our forgiveness. It was a very emotional meeting."

More than four hours into the testimony, lead defense attorney Tony Buzbee grilled the witness until he became flustered about why he turned whistleblower. He attempted to link Mateer to establishment Republicans, specifically political backers of George P. Bush, grandson and nephew of two former presidents, who unsuccessfully challenged Paxton last year.

"You were staging a coup, weren't you?" Buzbee said.

BRANDON BELL/GETTY IMAGES

Defense attorney Tony Buzbee, bottom, listens as Jeff Mateer, Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton's former top deputy, gives testimony during Paxton's impeachment trial in Austin on Wednesday.

Paxton is only the third official to be impeached since Texas became a state in 1845. He does not plan to testify, dismissing the proceeding as "a kangaroo court." He left midday Tuesday after pleading not guilty and has not returned — another calculated move, legal experts say, that would not be allowed in a criminal trial.

Geoffrey Corn, a former military prosecutor who teaches at Texas Tech University School of Law, said Paxton's absence shows "disdain for the process" that carries little risk for him.

"There's not much of a downside. It plays to his narrative," Corn said. "For him, all along, it's been political. 'I shouldn't be subjected to this.' It's a strategic move."

The attorney general has been a fierce defender of Donald Trump, fighting to overturn the 2020 presidential election. But he was suspended without pay when he was impeached by the House in May, a startling reversal of fortune in a state where the GOP controls all three branches of government.

Paxton initially faced 20 charges, including misconduct, bribery, obstruction of justice and misappropriation of public resources stemming from his effort to obtain $3.3 million in state funding to settle a lawsuit by senior aides. The Senate set aside four articles involving his private business dealings for after the trial; those then could be dismissed or pursued separately.

Paxton also faces felony securities fraud charges. He was indicted months after he took office in 2015; after much legal wrangling over where he should be tried, a hearing is scheduled in Houston on Oct. 6.

"We're only a few days away from one of the toughest fights of my entire career," Paxton told supporters in an email Wednesday that asked for donations to help restore him to office.

According to a website called Texas Scorecard Confessions, Paxton was spotted at Austin's Omni Barton Creek Resort & Spa after departing the Senate on Tuesday. The site said he was reportedly getting a massage. Asked for comment about that at the Capitol on Wednesday, Sen. Paxton demurred — and smiled.

Prosecutors submitted thousands of pages of evidence and a list of more than 100 potential witnesses, including Paxton's alleged mistress and the developer Paul, a wealthy donor. How many will take the stand is unclear. Senate impeachment managers set strict time limits, giving each side 27 hours to make its case. By the end of Day 2, lawyers were still questioning only their second witness.

Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, who is presiding over the trial but is neither a judge nor a lawyer, did little to speed the pace, though at one point he admonished attorneys to stop speaking over each other. Bickering and too much time spent on too few witnesses could hurt the prosecution, Golden said, because testimony is key to winning a conviction.

"It's dragging on," he said. "They're going to have a hard time getting in all the evidence they want."

#PaxtonImpeachment and #PaxtonTrial have trended this week on X, formerly Twitter, with supporters praising Paxton online. Texas political consultant Luke Macias name-dropped him in a music video thumping Texas lawmakers for being insufficiently conservative.

Yet public interest at the trial waned significantly after the first day. The few spectators attending Wednesday had vastly different takeaways on what they were hearing.

Retired probation officer Joyce Lewis, 59, said she thought the evidence against Paxton seemed powerful. His alleged dishonesty troubled her most.

"Would you want a dishonest police officer in charge of your state?" she asked.

Angela Hudson, 32, was in the Senate gallery wearing a Paxton sticker. The Uber driver said she wasn't bothered by Mateer's testimony detailing the attorney general's repeated infidelity.

"What was in the past is in the past, even if people make mistakes more than once," she said. "Angela forgave him, and that's what matters to me."

She hadn't decided whether Mateer was believable.

"Everyone says they're conservative. But what people say and what they do are different," Hudson said. "What matters most is, is he telling the truth? I think he is telling his version of the truth."

DIGEST

CALIFORNIA

Actor Masterson gets 30 years for raping two

A judge sentenced "That '70s Show" show star Danny Masterson to 30 years to life in prison Thursday for raping two women, giving them some relief after they spoke in court about the decades of damage he inflicted.

Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Charlaine F. Olmedo handed down the sentence to Masterson, 47, after hearing statements from the women and pleas for fairness from defense attorneys.

The sentence was the maximum allowed by the law. It means Masterson will be eligible for parole after serving 25½ years but can be held in prison for life.

The actor, who has been in custody since May, maintains his innocence, and his attorneys plan to appeal.

After an initial jury failed to reach verdicts on three counts of rape in December and a mistrial was declared, prosecutors retried Masterson on all three counts earlier this year.

At his second trial, Masterson was found guilty of two of three rape counts on May 31. Both attacks took place in Masterson's Hollywood-area home in 2003.

They could not reach a verdict on the third count, an allegation that Masterson also raped a longtime girlfriend.

Prosecutors alleged that Masterson used his prominence in the Church of Scientology — where all three women were also members at the time — to avoid consequences for decades after the attacks, and the women blamed the church for their hesitancy in going to police about Masterson.

— Associated Press

TEXAS

Court: Border barriers can stay for now

Texas can leave a 1,000-foot chain of buoys in place in the Rio Grande while legal challenges to the structure are pending, a federal appeals court ruled Thursday, one day after a lower court told the state to relocate its floating border barrier.

Thursday's order from a three-judge panel on the conservative U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit was a win to Gov. Greg Abbott (R), who has made the bright orange buoys a centerpiece of Operation Lone Star, the state-run campaign to block illegal border crossings into Texas.

The Biden administration filed a lawsuit in July after Texas installed the barriers in the middle of the river, arguing that the state lacked the authority to place buoys in an international waterway where the federal government has jurisdiction.

The appeals court did not address the merits of the case in its brief order but said the lower court ruling would remain on hold pending further action by the court.

On Wednesday, U.S. District Judge David A. Ezra, a Reagan appointee, gave Texas until Sept. 15 to move the buoys to the U.S. side of the Rio Grande, in coordination with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

— Nick Miroff

LOUISIANA

Priest, 91, charged in assault of boy in 1975

A state grand jury has charged a now-91-year-old disgraced priest with sexually assaulting a teenage boy in 1975.

The priest, Lawrence Hecker, has been at the center of state and federal investigations of clergy sex abuse and a deepening scandal over why church leaders failed to report his admissions to law enforcement even as they permitted him to work around children until he quietly left the ministry in 2002.

It wasn't until 2018 that the Archdiocese of New Orleans publicly identified Hecker as a suspected predator when it released its list of "credibly accused" priests.

Hecker faces felony counts of rape, kidnapping, aggravated crime against nature and theft. He is accused of choking the teen unconscious under the guise of performing a wrestling move and sexually assaulting him.

— Associated Press

Trump backer Navarro guilty of contempt in Jan. 6 case

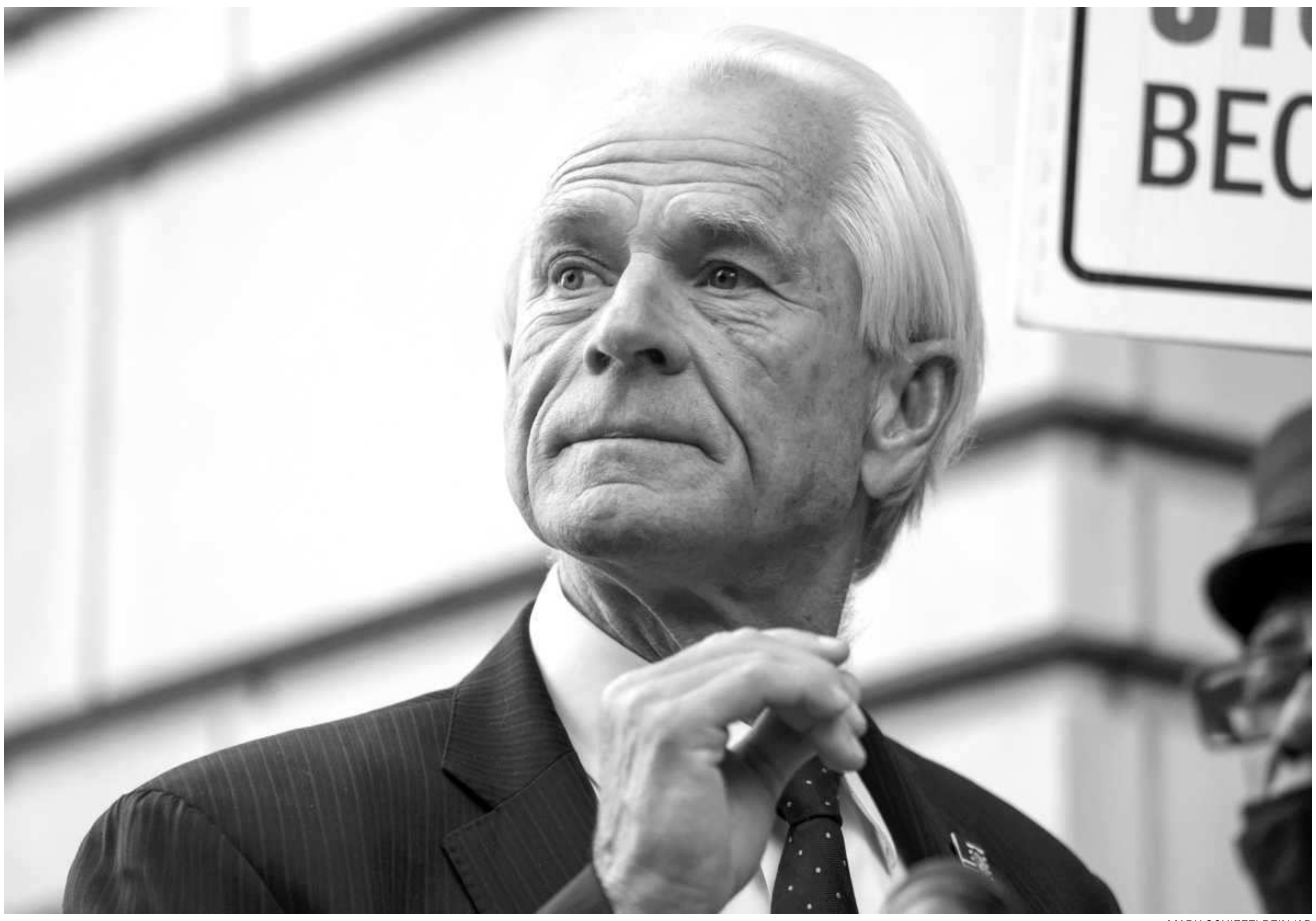
NAVARRO FROM **A1**

proponents of widely debunked claims that former president Donald Trump was denied reelection because of voter fraud in key states.

Like Bannon, Navarro defied a subpoena from the select committee that demanded information about his "stolen election" falsehoods and details of a brazen plan to reverse Biden's win through legislative machinations on Jan. 6, 2021, when Congress met in a joint session to formally certify the Biden win. The session was interrupted for more than six hours after hundreds of Trump supporters stormed the Capitol.

In refusing to cooperate with the bipartisan panel, the two former White House aides cited executive privilege, saying Trump, after he left office, instructed them not to provide testimony or documents regarding matters the committee was investigating.

But neither defendant was allowed to raise executive privilege as a trial defense. And with no strong argument for an acquittal, the guilty verdicts came relatively swiftly. Navarro, like Bannon, was accused of two counts of contempt, one for withholding records, the other for refusing to give a deposition. The jury in Navarro's case, in U.S. District Court, began deliberating just before 11 a.m. Thursday and, after breaking for lunch, returned a verdict just after 4 p.m.



MARK SCHIEFELBEIN/AP

Peter Navarro, a former White House trade adviser, was subpoenaed by the House committee investigating the Capitol riot. The panel unsuccessfully sought documents and testimony from Navarro, who said he will appeal the conviction that could put him behind bars.

The panel of eight men and four women declined to comment upon leaving the courthouse.

"Peter Navarro made a choice," Assistant U.S. Attorney Elizabeth Aloi said in her closing argument Thursday. "He chose not to comply with a congressional subpoena. Our government only works when people play by the rules. And it only works if they are held accountable when they do not."

Bannon, found guilty in the same courthouse in July 2022 after 2½ hours of jury deliberations, was sentenced to four months in prison. He remains free pending the outcome of his appeal. Judge Amit P. Mehta set Navarro's sentencing for Jan. 12.

Navarro, an economist and top Trump aide for all four years of the administration, and Bannon, a Trump political adviser who was chief White House strategist for seven months in 2017, are the first defendants to face potential incarceration for defying a congressional subpoena in more than half a century under a federal law that is rarely prosecuted.

Since Navarro received the subpoena from the now-disbanded select committee in February 2022, Trump, who is again running for president, has been accused of 91 felonies in four indictments, including four federal charges stemming from efforts to overturn the election.

As with Bannon, Navarro's best hope for an acquittal was to argue that he was barred from obeying the subpoena because Trump, after leaving office, invoked executive privilege in conversations with him. The privilege is meant to protect the privacy of discussions between presidents and their close aides. But Mehta prohibited the argument as a trial defense for Navarro, citing scant evidence that such conversations took place.

"The day Judge Mehta ruled that I could not use executive privilege as a defense, the die was cast," Navarro told reporters after his conviction. "This was pro forma. We knew going in what the verdict would be. That's why it's going to the appeals court. . . . I am willing to go to prison to settle this issue."

One of his attorneys, John P. Rowley III, said the prosecution of Navarro raises important questions about the separation of powers between the legislative and executive branches of government and the application of executive privilege.

"This is a landmark case," Rowley said. "This case won't be decided here finally. It'll be decided by the D.C. [Circuit] Court of Appeals. This is the first time that a senior aide who served his president for four years has ever been" put on trial for contempt of Congress.

> *"Does anybody want to tell me I'd be here if Republicans had held the House? Or if President Trump was in office? No! No! So a little bit of righteous indignation."*
>
> **Peter Navarro,** after the guilty verdict

Standing outside the courthouse, Navarro excoriated his political and ideological foes, including Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.), the former House speaker, and Attorney General Merrick Garland.

"I get a House of Representatives controlled by Nancy Pelosi trying to put me in prison," he said. "Why? Because I'm a Trump guy! And I get a Biden White House and a Biden Department of Justice. Does anybody want to tell me I'd be here if Republicans had held the House? Or if President Trump was in office? No! No! So a little bit of righteous indignation."

Because prosecutors were spared a trial fight over the validity of Trump's purported assertion of executive privilege, they had to prove only that Navarro received the subpoena, that the information it sought was pertinent to the committee's investigation, and that Navarro willfully failed to comply with its demands for testimony and documents.

To that end, prosecutors summoned just three witnesses: David Buckley, who was the committee's staff director, and two of the panel's senior investigative counsels, Daniel George and Marc Harris. Navarro's lead attorney, Stanley E. Woodward Jr., called no witnesses and cross-examined only George, for 15 minutes.

Harris, who was to have been the main inquisitor in Navarro's scheduled deposition, told the jury that he had planned to question the former Trump aide on several topics, including the legislative scheme to thwart the counting of electoral ballots and Navarro's false claims of widespread voting irregularities. Navarro has said he compiled his fraud "research" in a three-volume report that he personally gave to Trump before Jan. 6 and posted online.

Committee investigators wanted to explore any nexus among Navarro's "stolen election" falsehoods, the maneuvering to halt the electoral-ballot count, and the Capitol attack, Harris testified. He said Navarro was served with a subpoena because it "became clear" to the panel's staff that he had been "fomenting" violence by "contributing to uncertainty" about Biden's victory, which "directly fed into" the Capitol mob's rage.

Navarro's hamstrung defense, meanwhile, was reduced to longshot arguments.

In asking Mehta to issue verdicts of not guilty from the bench before jury deliberations began, Woodward, without the jurors present, implored the judge to consider the possibility that Navarro didn't have the documents that the committee wanted. Woodward said prosecutors had failed to prove that his client possessed the type of records listed in the subpoena, meaning he should be acquitted of contempt on that count.

Yet Navarro has never asserted in court or to the committee that he did not have the documents.

As for the contempt charge involving testimony, Woodward said Navarro should be acquitted because prosecutors had failed to prove that he "willfully" missed the scheduled deposition. Federal case law holds that an action isn't willful if it stems from a "mistake, accident" or other innocent occurrence. "We don't know that he wasn't stuck on the Metro," Woodward told the judge.

Was he?

"I don't know."

Woodward later focused on the willfulness issue in his closing argument to the jury, saying prosecutors had produced "no evidence" that Navarro's lack of response to the subpoena was not a result of "inadvertence, accident or mistake."

In interviews with the Daily Beast and other media outlets before he was indicted last year, and in a 2021 memoir, Navarro said his and Bannon's legislative scheme involved dragging out the process of tallying electoral votes on Jan. 6, 2021. Trump loyalists in the House and Senate would contest the ballots from six swing states that Biden had won, and each challenge would prompt four hours of debate, resulting in a nationally televised 24-hour spectacle.

According to Navarro, his job was to supply Trump-friendly lawmakers with volumes of "evidence" regarding voter fraud, to justify the challenges, while Bannon's role was to whip support for the plan among Republicans in Congress. The two called their strategy "the Green Bay Sweep," a football reference to an end-run play made famous in the 1960s by coach Vince Lombardi's Green Bay Packers.

The goal was to pressure Vice President Mike Pence, who was presiding over the joint session, to return the electoral votes to the states for reexamination. Eventually under the plan, the House would wind up choosing the next president, with the 50 state delegations each casting a single vote to decide the election. While Democrats outnumbered Republicans in the chamber, Republicans controlled a majority of delegations.

The outlandish play broke down after the Capitol riot when Pence refused to go along with it.

Bannon and defense attorneys in his contempt trial did not respond to emails seeking comment on Navarro's account of the scheme.

Navarro told Rolling Stone that Trump wanted "only peace and calm" on Jan. 6 "so that we could meticulously implement the Green Bay Packers Sweep." The House select committee later concluded otherwise, however, saying the "the central cause" of the riot "was one man, former president Donald Trump, who many others followed."

In the contempt case, prosecutor John Crabb Jr. argued that Navarro, in refusing to cooperate with the inquiry, "acted as if he's above the law. But he isn't above the law. No one is."

Spencer S. Hsu contributed to this report.

Former United Airlines executive nominated for top FAA job by Biden

BY MICHAEL LARIS, IAN DUNCAN AND LORI ARATANI

President Biden on Thursday nominated Michael Whitaker to run the Federal Aviation Administration, choosing a former airline executive who previously was second-in-command at the agency to serve as its leader.

If confirmed by the Senate, Whitaker would begin a five-year term as the agency is grappling with high-profile near misses that have shaken confidence in aviation safety. He would be charged with modernizing FAA technology and replenishing its depleted ranks of air traffic controllers.

Some of that work would be familiar to Whitaker, who oversaw work on a next-generation air traffic control system as the FAA's deputy administrator during former president Barack Obama's administration. Whitaker was a longtime executive at United Airlines, working as a senior vice president with responsibility for regulations. He is currently chief operating officer at Supernal, a company that develops electric aircraft.

Whitaker, 62, holds a law degree from the Georgetown University Law Center and earned a private pilot certificate in 2014 during his time at the FAA, part of what he called a commitment to understanding technology and the challenges facing general aviation.

The nomination follows a protracted period in which the safety agency has lacked a permanent leader. Steve Dickson, a former Delta Air Lines executive appointed by former president Donald Trump, stepped down as administrator 17 months ago.

Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg said the agency needed a confirmed leader and Whitaker was the right person for the job.

"He knows aviation, he knows safety, he knows the FAA and he knows how to manage and modernize large organizations," Buttigieg said in a statement.

Former transportation secretary Ray LaHood, who swore in Whitaker to his FAA post in June 2013, said Whitaker's mix of government, industry and piloting experience should help him gain support among senators who will vote on his nomination. "He should sail through," LaHood said.

Labor groups on Thursday underscored the need for permanent leadership at the agency and urged the Senate to swiftly confirm Whitaker. The Air Line Pilots Association, International said it applauded the nomination, while Sara Nelson, president of the 50,000-member Association of Flight Attendants-CWA, said the industry hoped for a quick confirmation.

"Perhaps more than any other time in aviation history, it is urgent that we have a confirmed FAA administrator," she said in a statement.

FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

Michael Whitaker would helm agency amid a turbulent period.

Whitaker's nomination comes after months of uncertainty about who would lead an agency that has increasingly drawn the attention of lawmakers and airline passengers.

In July 2022, Biden selected Phillip Washington — a longtime transit official, chief executive of Denver International Airport and 24-year Army veteran — to lead the FAA. But as his nomination inched through the confirmation process, Republican senators said he lacked aviation safety experience.

During a Senate hearing on Washington's nomination in March, Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Tex.) and other Republicans sought to tie Washington to local political issues in California, where he headed the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, and criticized his focus on diversity among public transportation officials and contractors.

Cruz told Washington: "It gives no comfort to the flying public that their pilot might be a transgendered witch but doesn't actually know how to prevent the plane from crashing into the ground and killing them. I believe your record is woefully lacking."

GOP senators also argued that Washington was not a "civilian," as required under federal law, although a top Department of Transportation lawyer noted that Washington had retired from the military more than two decades earlier and "fits the plain and widely understood meaning" of the word "civilian."

Washington withdrew his nomination after Sen. Kyrsten Sinema (I-Ariz.) scuttled a committee vote in March. Washington said he could have been a transformative leader but had been subject to "cheap and unfounded partisan attacks" and obstruction tied to his military career.

Cruz said in a statement Thursday that "we must carefully evaluate" Whitaker's credentials. Sen. Maria Cantwell (D-Wash.), chairwoman of the Commerce Committee, said the FAA has problems to tackle and she expected Whitaker would "use his substantial aviation experience and knowledge to meet these challenges."

The agency had been helmed on an acting basis by Billy Nolen, an airline pilot and FAA safety official, until he announced he was leaving. Deputy Transportation Secretary Polly Trottenberg was tapped to serve as the agency's interim head until a new nominee was selected and confirmed.

Whitaker's nomination has been expected for months. Richie Johnsen, air transport territory general vice president at the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, said that over that period, he spoke with Whitaker several times, dispelling any concerns labor leaders had about a former executive leading the agency.

Industry organizations said they supported Whitaker's nomination.

"He has a deep understanding of and appreciation for the collaborative partnership between industry and government that is necessary to ensure air travel remains the safest mode of transportation in the world," Nicholas Calio, chief executive of airline trade group Airlines for America, said in a statement.

Michael Huerta, whose term as FAA administrator overlapped with Whitaker's tenure at the agency, said Whitaker's decision to obtain a private pilot's license during his time at the FAA showed a commitment to understanding how the industry interacts with the agency that oversees it.

"He gets very grounded in what the reality is and what is the practical thing we need to consider when establishing policies to ensure the safety of the system," Huerta said.

The FAA has struggled to modernize legacy computer systems and, in January, faced an embarrassing meltdown of its critical Notice to Air Missions pilot alert system, which led to the first nationwide halt to air traffic since the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

The nation's airspace also saw an unusual cluster of near misses at airports around the country earlier this year, leading to calls to redouble FAA safety efforts. In July, the Department of Transportation announced it had launched an audit to gauge the FAA's processes for analyzing and preventing runway incursions.

The FAA is also continuing to wrestle with congressionally mandated changes after the crashes of Boeing 737 Max airliners in Indonesia in 2018 and Ethiopia in 2019. Relying heavily on oversight by Boeing employees, the FAA certified the jets as safe despite a flawed automated flight-control system that would end up overpowering pilots, killing 346 people, according to congressional and crash investigators.

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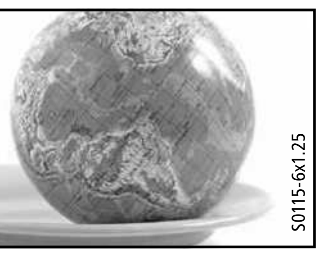

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Racial equity concerns lead to turmoil at the Sierra Club

SIERRA CLUB FROM **A1**

After coming under scrutiny for not doing enough to promote employees of color and fight pollution that disproportionately hurts minority communities, even organizations that have shifted course find themselves embroiled in fights over how to address past wrongs and ensure equity.

The discord at the Sierra Club intensified in April and May, when the group's new leadership laid off more than two dozen employees, many of whom were people of color, as part of what Jealous has called a broader "restructuring." According to the Progressive Workers Union, which represented roughly 400 Sierra Club staffers before the layoffs, more than 30 of their members lost their jobs. The Sierra Club declined to disclose how many people were let go.

The leadership laid off the entire staff of the equity team, which was tasked with improving the workplace culture around diversity and inclusion, and several members of the environmental justice division, which had fought to block polluting projects in communities of color and low-income neighborhoods. Jealous also shortened the name of the People, Culture and Equity Department — which includes the equity team and the human resources team — to the People Department and hired a vocal critic of its past work from outside the organization to lead it.

People of color accounted for about 48.5 percent of unionized employees who were let go, according to union leaders.

The layoffs had "disproportionate impacts" on Black workers, Indigenous workers and other staffers of color, the union wrote in a Thursday letter to the Sierra Club board, which was obtained by The Post. "We do not present this information to accuse Sierra Club management of targeting these groups, but rather to illustrate the effects of layoffs that run counter to the Sierra Club's and the Union's shared goals and vision."

Sierra Club spokesman Jonathon Berman disputed the data, and said these changes did not affect the overall diversity of staff at the group. The organization recently hired several high-ranking executives of color, including a new deputy executive director and chief of staff, and Berman provided a chart showing that before the layoffs, the Sierra Club's full-time staff was 56 percent White, and that after the layoffs, it was 57.9 percent White.

"At the conclusion of the separations, the organization remains as diverse as it was before the restructuring," Berman said in an email. "Any claims stating otherwise are false and not supported by data."

C.J. Garcia-Linz, president of the union and a Sierra Club employee, said that having some of the new senior staffers add diversity does not make up for letting go many minority employees working in disadvantaged communities. "Having BIPOC people who are on the ground in these communities, who have nontransferable relationships and institutional knowledge, is more important to us," she said, using an acronym for Black people, Indigenous people and people of color.

Jealous defended his decisions in an interview Thursday, saying he has "dedicated his life both to advancing civil rights [and] overcoming past patterns of exclusion in our society."

Jealous described the layoffs as an economic necessity, since the group faced a $40 million annual budget deficit when he joined, in part because donations declined after President Donald Trump, who rolled back dozens of environmental regulations, left office. He said the group is also restructuring in the wake of last year's landmark Inflation Reduction Act by adding chapter directors in more than a dozen states, particularly in Republican-led ones that stand to gain the most investment from the new climate law.

"When I took over at Sierra Club, no one had advertised that I would be inheriting a budget with a $40 million deficit," he said. "That was news to me walking through the door."

However, some employees said this accounting was incomplete. They pointed to Jealous's personal expenses, including the renovation of the group's D.C. location to create his own soundproof office

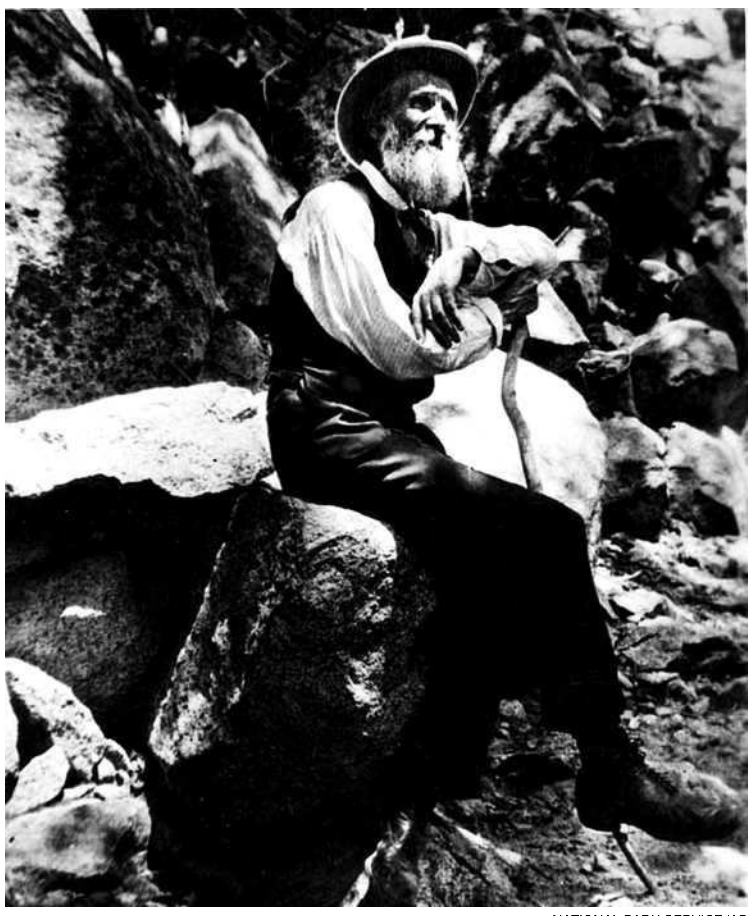
Berman did not dispute the renovation but said it was necessary, since Jealous is the first executive director to be based in Washington instead of Oakland, Calif.

"Prior to renovations there was not a permanent workspace for the executive director in the D.C. office," he said. "The D.C. office will be adjacent to two conference rooms, so a sound barrier is being utilized to ensure that work can be done in both rooms without one disturbing the other."

Jealous has also filled a half-dozen vacant executive positions that offer six-figure salaries. According to an analysis by the Progressive Workers Union, based on information it obtained from the Sierra Club, the cumulative salaries of the group's top 10 earners — $3,236,620 as of April 30 — nearly offset the projected savings from the layoffs of unionized workers, totaling $3,599,641.

"There can't be any possible savings from these layoffs," Garcia-Linz said.

MATT MCCLAIN/THE WASHINGTON POST



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE/AP

TOP: Ben Jealous was hired as the first Black leader of the Sierra Club in its 131-year history. ABOVE: The group is reckoning with racist statements made by its founder, naturalist John Muir.

Past and present

The Sierra Club has grappled with its role in perpetuating racism and inequity for much of its history. The group was founded in 1892 by John Muir, a naturalist whose racist remarks the organization largely ignored until recently.

Muir once referred to African Americans as lazy "Sambos," a racist pejorative that many Black people consider as offensive as the n-word. He also described Native Americans he encountered as "dirty" and "savages."

In 1903, Muir was instrumental in persuading President Theodore Roosevelt to establish the National Park Service. The agency would later evict Native Americans from land now within Yellowstone, Yosemite and Glacier national parks, and has since been trying to rectify that history.

Muir's defenders say his comments should be taken in historical context, and that his accomplishments — including helping preserve millions of acres of public lands — should not be overlooked. They also note that he reserved some of his sharpest criticism for White loggers and miners, whom he also derided as "savages."

But in 2020, after the murder of George Floyd sparked a national reckoning over racism, the Sierra Club publicly repudiated its founder's beliefs. Michael Brune, who was the group's executive director at the time, wrote in a blog post that Muir "was not immune to the racism peddled by many in the early conservation movement." He added that "as defenders of Black life pull down Confederate monuments across the country, we must also take this moment to reexamine our past and our substantial role in perpetuating white supremacy."

Yet the blog post sparked backlash from two board members — one of whom is Black — and several longtime Sierra Club volunteers, many of whom are White. Aaron Mair, who became the first Black board president in 2015, publicly criticized Brune for pushing what he called a "revisionist" and "ahistorical" account of Muir's thoughts and writings.

Brune, who is now an environmental consultant in California, stepped down as executive director in 2021. He declined to comment for this story.

While the board was searching for Brune's successor, the equity team asked board members for permission to publish the results of its internal survey on the retention of Black, Hispanic and Asian employees. The board members refused, and the results were never released, according to a former staffer familiar with the matter.

Had the results been published, they would have shown that the Sierra Club had made little progress on retaining diverse staff over the past 13 years, and that confidence in leadership had remained low over the past two years, this person said.

Berman said the survey was not released because "the data collected was extremely incomplete," since only 70 percent of employees had voluntarily reported their race and ethnicity. He said the group now requires staff to either report this information or decline to do so.

Jealous's appointment last fall appeared to herald a shift in how the organization would approach these issues. At the NAACP, Jealous had launched the group's first-ever climate justice program and overseen a 2012 report identifying coal-fired power plants that disproportionately harmed communities of color.

Soon after taking the helm of the Sierra Club, Jealous hired an executive to lead the newly named People Department who criticized the group's past equity work. In an email to her staff, obtained by The Post, Aida Davis wrote, "Our existing equity initiatives and investigative processes have proven costly and ineffective in addressing very serious harms and needs of our community."

In an interview, Davis said the Sierra Club's past equity work had "harmed" employees of color, although she declined to provide a specific example, citing confidentiality concerns. "We have so many data points on how the most oppressed and marginalized folks were not just underserved but harmed in the previous attempts at this work," she said. "There are a lot of pieces of evidence that are public that demonstrate that Sierra Club was moving in a performative, superficial, and harmful way."

Davis added that as a Black woman, she had personally experienced disrespectful behavior from staffers. "I have never felt more undermined, gaslit and disrespected, and my dignity diminished, than I have in this role," she said.

Jealous also oversaw the layoffs of several members of the environmental justice team, formally known as the Healthy Communities campaign. The division has pushed to rebuild Puerto Rico's aging power grid in a way that prioritizes renewable energy and fought to halt proposed petrochemical plants that would release toxic air pollutants in a historically Black community in Louisiana's "Cancer Alley."

Berman said the group's environmental justice work will continue despite the layoffs. "The work to address environmental justice is not the responsibility of any one individual or team," he said.

A broader struggle

The Sierra Club is not the only green group to struggle with diversity, equity and inclusion, known as DEI. White workers account for the vast majority of employees at the nation's 40 largest environmental organizations and foundations, according to a survey last year by Green 2.0, a group advocating for diversity within the environmental movement.

White workers account for 59.5 percent of full-time staff, the survey found, followed by 11 percent of workers identifying as Hispanic or Latino, 9.9 percent Black or African American, and 7.2 percent Asian. Among senior staff, 61.8 percent of workers identify as White, while among chief executives, 69 percent are White.

About 90 percent of the groups have included DEI goals in their strategic plans and have established protocols for addressing racial discrimination, harassment and microaggressions. However, fewer groups have implemented initiatives that could help retain a more diverse staff, such as a transparent salary pay scale (54 percent) or mentoring programs (43 percent).

"We need to make sure that we're doing better as an environmental sector," said Andres Jimenez, executive director of Green 2.0. "Social justice is environmental justice. It's critically important that organizations are able to prioritize both. We're not saying, 'You just need to drop everything you're doing and work only on diversity issues.'"

At the Union of Concerned Scientists, where White workers account for 61.39 percent of full-time staff, a Black employee quit in 2020 and published a searing open letter that slammed the organization's seeming indifference to minority workers. Ruth Tyson wrote that the group's leadership "simply baited us in with the language of equity without making significant infrastructural, cultural, and procedural changes to prioritize and accommodate the [people of color or] the actual work of racial equity."

In response, leadership wrote that it was taking "immediate steps" to "do the work of dismantling white supremacy within our organization." Johanna Chao Kreilick, who became president of the Union of Concerned Scientists in 2021, said in an interview that Tyson was "incredibly courageous" for sending the letter.

Kreilick said the group has since revamped its hiring process to prioritize diversity among staff and senior executives. She said that while the environmental movement as a whole has made progress on this front, "change is slow in coming."

Time running out to avert UAW autoworkers' strike as deadline looms

BY JEANNE WHALEN

Detroit's big automakers are running out of time to avert a strike as contract talks with the United Auto Workers remain tense, just one week before the current contract expires.

The union has made the most progress in negotiations with Ford but has said it remains unsatisfied with the company's proposals. GM said Thursday that it submitted a new offer to the union that includes a 10 percent wage increase for most employees and a 20 percent increase, to $20 an hour, for temporary workers, but the UAW immediately called the proposal "insulting." Stellantis, the parent company of Jeep and Chrysler, says it will submit a new offer by the end of the week.

Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer (D) said Thursday that she is speaking with the Big Three automakers and the union in an effort to head off a strike, telling Bloomberg News that she is "concerned about where it's headed." The White House is also involved, having assigned longtime Democratic adviser Gene Sperling as its liaison to the union and automakers.

A strike against one or all of the Big Three would destabilize an industry that contributes about 3 percent of the nation's gross domestic product (GDP) and deliver a blow to the economies of automaking states in the Midwest and beyond.

In a sign of the union's particular animosity toward Stellantis, the UAW said Thursday that it would hold a protest rally at the company's engine plant in Trenton, Mich.

In the event of a strike, the union would pay workers $500 a week out of the UAW's $825 million strike fund. To make that money last longer, the UAW could decide to strike only against one or more engine plants, which would cripple overall production without requiring every factory to be shut down, Ambrose Conroy, an auto expert and founder of Seraph Consulting, said in an interview.

The union and its fiery new president, Shawn Fain, have made big demands, including a 40 percent pay raise over four years and the restoration of benefits that workers gave up around the time of the Great Recession. The automakers have said that they can't give the workers everything they want and still remain competitive against non-unionized automakers such as Tesla.

GM said the 10 percent wage increase it is offering most of its UAW workers over the life of the contract would be the largest increase since 1999 and 67 percent higher than the last wage hike in the 2019 contract. Workers would also get two lump-sum payments equal to 3 percent of their wages and a $6,000 one-time "inflation-recognition payment." The company would also give workers a $5,500 bonus for ratifying the contract.

"Our offer includes well-deserved wage improvements that far exceed the 2019 agreement and reward you for your hard work. We still have work to do, but we wanted to make this offer to show our good faith efforts to keep the process moving," GM said in a letter to employees Thursday.

Last week, the UAW filed complaints with the National Labor Relations Board against GM and Stellantis, accusing the companies of refusing to bargain in good faith. The companies denied the charges.

On Thursday, Fain dismissed GM's offer.

"After refusing to bargain in good faith for the past six weeks, only after having federal labor board charges filed against them, GM has come to the table with an insulting proposal that doesn't come close to an equitable agreement for America's autoworkers," Fain said in a statement. "The clock is ticking. Stop wasting our members' time. Tick tock."

Talks with Ford are at a more advanced stage. The company submitted its offer to the UAW last week, including a 9 percent wage increase over the four-year contract and a lump-sum payment equaling 6 percent of wages. It would also pay $12,000 in "cost-of-living adjustment bonuses" over the life of the contract, and would allow employees to reach the top wage level at a faster pace than in the past. And like GM, Ford would give temporary workers an immediate 20 percent raise to $20 an hour. The status of temp workers has been a sticking point in the negotiations.

"Overall, this offer is significantly better than what we estimate workers earn at Tesla and foreign automakers operating in the U.S.," Ford Chief Executive Jim Farley said in a statement last week.

Last week, Fain rejected the offer, but the UAW president has become more personally involved in talks with Ford in an effort to reach a deal, according to a person familiar with the negotiations.

On Wednesday the union submitted a counteroffer to Ford, the person said.

Stellantis this week said its offer would arrive by the end of the week. "We look forward to continuing our discussions to reach an agreement that better positions the business to meet the challenges of the U.S. marketplace and secures the future for all of our employees, their families and our company," Stellantis said.

Trump's attacks coincide with a GOP impeachment push

TRUMP FROM A1

the same tack against Biden, announcing in April that he would "retire" the "Crooked" nickname for Clinton and start using it for Biden. "There's never been anyone in the history of American politics so crooked or dishonest as Joe Biden," he said at the time, during a stop in Manchester, N.H.

The current onslaught from Trump coincides with a broader effort, as House Republicans have supplied a steady drumbeat of disclosures about Hunter Biden, with hard-liners pushing Speaker Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.) toward opening an impeachment inquiry against the president, though they have not specified what it would focus on. Some House Republicans acknowledge the current evidence doesn't implicate the elder Biden.

"Right now, I'm not convinced that that evidence exists," Rep. Ken Buck (R-Colo.) said Wednesday on CNN.

Still, polling shows a stark partisan divide in how Americans view the allegations, with the vast majority of Republicans saying they believe the scandal implicates President Biden, while Democrats see things differently.

Trump already tried a similar approach against Biden in 2020. At their first debate, Trump accosted Biden about an alleged $3.5 million transfer to his son from the wife of the former mayor of Moscow. Biden denied the charge as Trump repeatedly interrupted him. The claim arose from a Republican Senate committee staff report, but the money went to a business associate who later testified it was unrelated to Hunter Biden.

In the years since, though, President Biden's popularity has plunged, and Hunter Biden's problems have not gone away. A deal for Hunter Biden to plead guilty to two tax-related misdemeanors in Delaware, admit to the facts of a gun violation and probably avoid jail time unraveled in July, leading to the appointment of a special counsel and the possibility that the case could go to trial during the campaign. The special counsel filed court papers this week saying he intends to seek an indictment in the case before the end of the month.

"For five years now, Republicans have been chasing and failing to prove their own conspiracies about Hunter Biden and his legitimate business activities," his lawyer Abbe Lowell said in a statement. "Unlike Donald Trump and his family, Hunter Biden was not in business with his father, he did not work in his administration or create billion-dollar investments based on any work during public service."

On the whole, a majority of Americans (61 percent) said they believe Joe Biden was involved in Hunter Biden's business dealings with Ukraine and China while the elder Biden was vice president, according to a CNN poll conducted by SSRS released Thursday. The survey also showed a majority (55 percent) said Joe Biden has acted inappropriately when it comes to the investigation into Hunter Biden. Similar to some other surveys, the poll reflects party-line divisions.

In an August Yahoo/YouGov poll, 86 percent of Republicans said Hunter Biden got preferential treatment, compared with 22 percent of Democrats. Eighty-four percent of Republicans also said they believed Hunter Biden "funneled millions of dollars to his father in a long-running scheme to help Joe Biden profit off of his position," a claim that is not supported by available evidence and that only 10 percent of Democrats accepted.

"Due to congressional investigations into the corruption allegations against President Biden and his son Hunter, our national data shows that the plurality of voters think the evidence within those allegations is impeachable," said Mitch Brown, director of political strategy for the Republican polling firm Cygnal. "It solidifies Biden as one of the weakest candidates in history to seek reelection and one of the most embattled presidents seeking a second term, second to only Trump. The difference is polls show the evidence against Biden sticks with voters."

The White House declined to comment. Biden campaign spokesman Ammar Moussa said: "Americans see right through Donald Trump's lies and projection — these are the same old debunked conspiracy theories Trump pushed four years ago."

JOHN TULLY FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Donald Trump holds a rally Aug. 8 in Windham, N.H. "There's never been anyone in the history of American politics so crooked or dishonest as Joe Biden," he said on the campaign trail.

In Trump's hands, the allegations against Hunter Biden have morphed into "absolute proof that Biden's being paid off by China, Ukraine and many other countries," as the former president put it during a July speech in Iowa. Congressional Republicans have obtained thousands of pages of financial records and presented no evidence implicating President Biden in his son's dealings. They also called witnesses who worked with Hunter Biden and testified that President Biden was not involved.

Trump's claim that the FBI has "explosive evidence that Joe Biden took bribes from Ukraine" arose from a tip that was investigated and found to be unsubstantiated during Trump's administration.

In a campaign video posted to social media in August, Trump falsely claimed, "It is now 100% proven that the Biden Crime Family received more than $20 million from foreign countries while Crooked Joe was vice president." That allegation comes from a House Oversight Committee Republican staff report detailing payments from Russia, Kazakhstan, and Ukraine to Hunter Biden and his associates. Only about $7 million of the total was attributable to Hunter Biden, and none to Joe Biden.

Elsewhere, Trump falsely alleged that "at least nine Biden family members were paid vast sums of money through 20 different shell companies for no legitimate reason at all." The source of the claim is another House Oversight Republican staff report, which found payments to Hunter Biden and two relatives, not nine family members and not including Joe Biden. The companies were operating businesses, not shells.

Trump has tried to tie President Biden to his son's dealings through instances in which Hunter Biden referenced their relationship. In one example, Hunter Biden sent a text message to a Chinese investor saying he was in the room with his father and expected payment immediately. Hunter Biden's lawyer has said he was not in fact with his father that day, and there is no evidence that the elder Biden benefited from the transaction.

Trump has also accused Biden of being paid off by China through his center affiliated with the University of Pennsylvania. At a July rally, Trump put the figure at "almost $100 million." But a Penn spokesperson told the Philadelphia Inquirer that the center received no gifts from Chinese or other foreign donors.

From the unsubstantiated premise that Biden has taken bribes, Trump goes on to allege foreign blackmail caused Biden to take certain actions. However, those actions never occurred. He accused Biden of supporting the Ukrainian resistance to Russia's invasion because of being bribed. "Not a single American life should be put at risk because Crooked Joe Biden has been illegally paid off," Trump said at a rally in July. Biden has expanded the U.S. military presence in Europe but ruled out deploying ground troops to Ukraine. In the August campaign video, Trump accused Biden of doing nothing while China "took over the Panama Canal," mischaracterizing Chinese infrastructure investments in a bridge and port in the canal zone.

The frequently false claims the former president is making intersect with another argument that is central to his candidacy: He has suggested that the crimes he accuses Biden of committing are the reason he is being prosecuted. Trump is fighting four separate criminal indictments: in New York for a 2016 hush money scheme; in Florida for allegedly mishandling classified documents after leaving the White House; in Washington for attempting to overturn the 2020 election; and in Georgia for allegedly interfering in that state's results. The New York and Georgia cases are run by local prosecutors. The federal cases are brought by special counsel Jack Smith, acting independently of the White House.

Biden has said he never suggested to the Justice Department whether federal prosecutors should or shouldn't charge a case.

But in Trump's telling, all the cases are coordinated and timed to distract from Biden's own scandals. "Joe Biden and the radical left can take foreign bribes and be totally protected," Trump said without evidence during a June speech at his Bedminster, N.J., golf club.

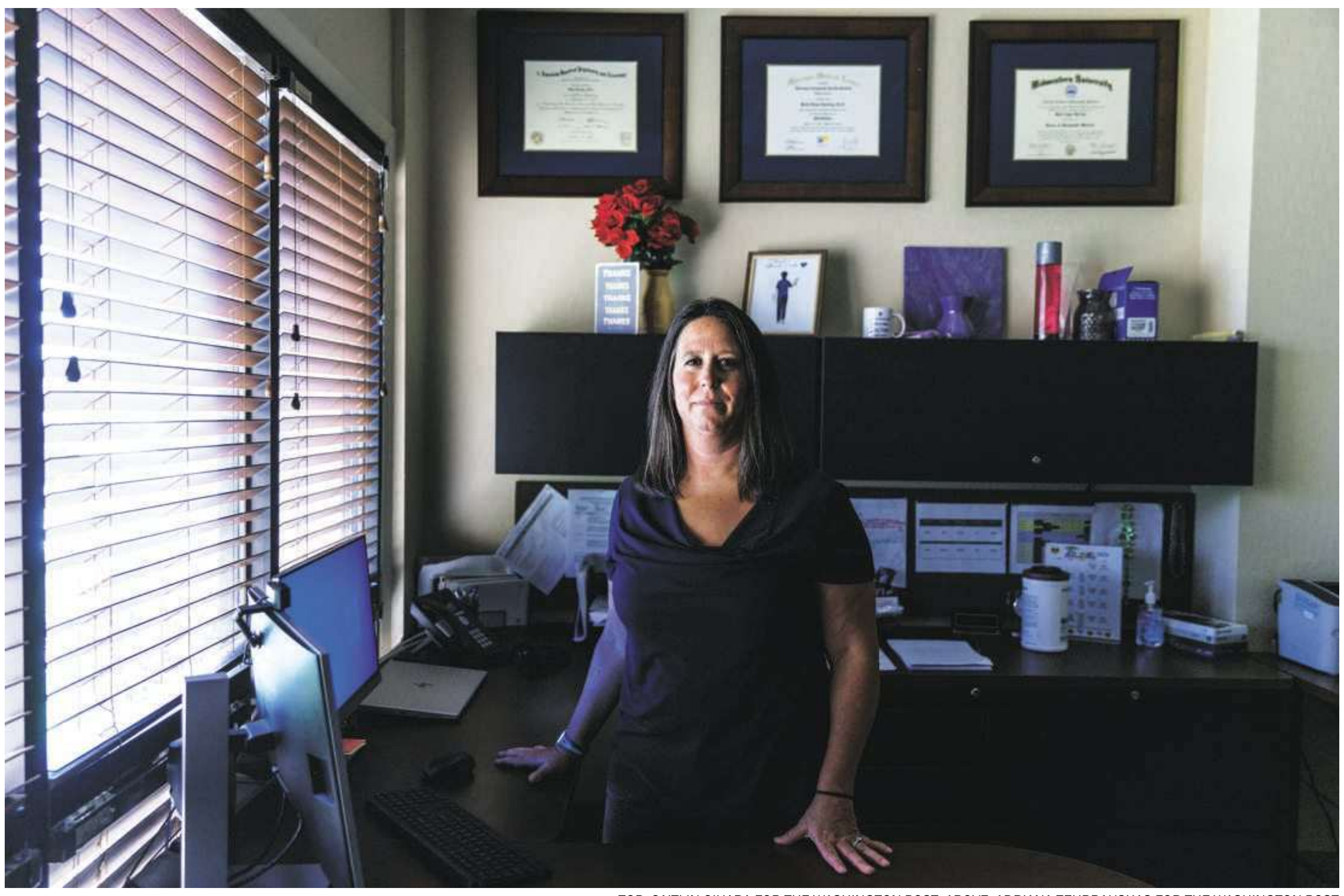
At a July rally in South Carolina, he added, without evidence: "Joe Biden used the DOJ to cover up his own crimes. He ordered his top political opponent, me, arrested."

During Trump's first court appearance in Washington, his campaign distributed fliers drawing connections between the timing of revelations about Hunter Biden's business dealings and charges against Trump. "When Biden corruption is exposed, the government targets Trump," the flier said in all caps. "This is the Biden playbook."

If elected, Trump has vowed to take revenge on Biden through a special prosecutor.

"From my first day in office, I will appoint a special prosecutor to study each and every one of the many claims being brought forth by Congress," he said at the New Hampshire campaign stop, "concerning all of the crooked acts, including bribes from China and many other countries, all these foreign countries sending money into the coffers of the Biden crime family."

THE HUMAN LIMIT



TOP: CAITLIN O'HARA FOR THE WASHINGTON POST; ABOVE: ADRIANA ZEHBRAUSKAS FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

TOP: A street corner near Stephan Goodwin's grandfather's house. Stephan called Ralph Goodwin late on July 12, 2022, saying he needed a place to sleep; he spent the night at his grandfather's before abruptly disappearing the next morning. ABOVE: Beth Darling, medical director of a treatment team at Valleywise Behavioral Health, says she's seen schizophrenic patients check themselves out of emergency rooms and roam the streets in scorching temperatures. "They get lost, they get confused," she said.

He wandered into the heat with an extra risk: Schizophrenia

SCHIZOPHRENIA FROM **A1**

He took a step forward, then back. His feet seemed to catch on each other. On either side of the road, sprawling suburban homes sat quietly behind fences, their air conditioners humming.

A local real estate agent, who spoke on the condition of anonymity, saw him from her car as she drove around the neighborhood searching for her cat. "Hey, do you need help?" she recalled asking.

As she watched, Stephan turned, slowly, stiffly, as though his limbs hung on strings. His eyes didn't register her presence. Then he turned away and kept walking, toward the mountainside with its cactuses standing at attention.

The real estate agent called 911, and then, a few minutes later, called again. "Where are you guys?" she asked. "I think he's going to die."

By then, Stephan had been wandering through Phoenix for over 24 hours. His final days — pieced together through police and medical examiner records, videos from the scene, text messages, and interviews with family members and witnesses — show how extreme heat, even in a country as rich as the United States, turns into a lethal threat.

Phoenix is one of the hottest cities in America. Every year, dozens of people in this Southwestern city suffer second- or third-degree burns just from coming into contact with the pavement; thousands more are hospitalized with heat-related illnesses. While air conditioning, water stations and heat warnings shield many residents from rising temperatures, hundreds of people still die of heat here every summer — including over 300 suspected heat deaths so far this year.

And one factor stands out as potentially the most dangerous preexisting condition in a rapidly warming world — not just because it makes people struggle to find safety in times of extreme heat but because it makes their bodies more vulnerable to the high temperatures. It's the condition that Stephan was diagnosed with in his late 20s: schizophrenia.

10 P.M. | 100 DEGREES

No one knows exactly why Stephan left home. There was an argument with his girlfriend; according to his family, he also may have been experiencing paranoia from his illness. On July 12, 2022, Stephan placed some of his belongings into a gray bag that had once held an air mattress. About 10 o'clock in the evening, he called his grandfather Ralph Goodwin, saying he needed to spend the night.

Ralph — a tall, deep-voiced 82-year-old — agreed. But it was late: Stephan didn't have a driver's license and Ralph's eyes were too poor for nighttime driving. "Do you have any water?" Ralph recalls asking. Temperatures had fallen from the heat of the day, but it was still over 100 degrees. Stephan promised that he had a gallon of water with him, and set out on foot.

Health experts have focused on the danger rising temperatures pose to the elderly or those with heart disease. But schizophrenia, a mental illness affecting less than 1 percent of Americans, has become a major risk factor, especially in hot places like Phoenix.

When temperatures surge, the effects of schizophrenia can be profound.

During the record-breaking heat wave in Canada's British Columbia in 2021, for example, researchers found that an astonishing 8 percent of the people who died in the heat had been diagnosed with schizophrenia — rendering it more dangerous, when combined with heat, than any other condition studied. Michael Lee, an epidemiologist at the British Columbia Center for Disease Control and one of the study's authors, said people with chronic kidney disease were 36 percent more likely to die during the heat wave than in normal conditions. For people with schizophrenia, it was over 200 percent.

People with schizophrenia are more likely to be unhoused or economically vulnerable — but that's not the only reason they are at greater risk. Drugs prescribed for schizophrenia and other serious mental illnesses dehydrate patients and make it harder for their bodies to manage high temperatures. There is also evidence that these patients have inherent difficulty dealing with temperature changes. "People with schizophrenia have more difficulty thermoregulating," said Joshua Wortzel, a psychiatrist at Brown University.

In 2022, the year Stephan stumbled down the South Phoenix street, people diagnosed with schizophrenia made up 4 percent of all heat-related deaths and 4 percent of all hospital visits for heat-related illness, according to the medical examiner's office and the public health department of Maricopa County, which encompasses Phoenix and its suburbs. Data from the public health department shows that when factoring in other serious mental illnesses — such as schizoaffective disorder or bipolar disorder — the numbers are likely to be much higher.

Death records and interviews with medical practitioners and family members reveal how acutely vulnerable schizophrenics are. There was John Bernal Jr., a 49-year-old man whose family worked hard to get him into a group home, only to have him wander away. Three days later, on Aug. 30, 2021, he was found with an internal body temperature of 108 degrees. There was Sailaja Boyilla, a middle-aged woman recently diagnosed with schizophrenia who was found in her car in a parking lot, having recently purchased a bottle of juice.

Their deaths show the struggle that countries like the United States face when grappling with extreme heat. In poorer countries, the battle against heat is largely about resources: access to air conditioning and electricity cheap enough to run it. But in richer countries, it's about protecting those who can't or won't have access to shelter: outdoor workers, unhoused people, drug users and those with mental illness.

The city of Phoenix's 27-page heat-response plan doesn't include any mentions of mental illness or schizophrenia — despite the fact that David Hondula, the city's director of heat response, co-authored a paper showing that heat is boosting hospital admissions of people with schizophrenia in the Phoenix area. Hondula declined to be interviewed for this article. The Maricopa County Department of Public Health also did not offer comment after multiple requests.

Nonprofits and medical groups struggle to help those in need. Tara Ankrah, a registered nurse at a Phoenix nonprofit called Circle the City, spends her days delivering medications, water and care to the thousands of people living on the city's streets — many of whom have schizophrenia, bipolar disorder or another serious mental illness. The heat, she says, is a "recipe for disaster" for those patients — and it's getting worse. "It feels more and more hopeless every year," she said. "More and more heat. More and more unbearable."

12 A.M. | 100 DEGREES

When Stephan arrived at his grandfather's house around midnight on the evening of July 12, he did so with a gun in each hand: a Canik semiautomatic pistol in one and a Taurus 0.357 Magnum revolver in the other. "Like it was a gunfight," Ralph recalled.

Ralph had dealt with erratic behavior before. His son, Stephan's uncle, had also been diagnosed with paranoid schizophrenia. Ralph stayed calm: He placed the guns in a safe, and he set his grandson up in the spare room for the night.

As with many people with schizophrenia, Stephan's symptoms began in adulthood. His mother, Darae Goodwin, remembers him as a very happy child. He was slow-moving but often smiling, prone to saying whatever popped into his mind. When he was 7, he had his appendix removed, and was treated by a surgeon with a ski-jump nose. As the doctor examined him, Stephan, not known for his politeness, turned to Darae. "Mom, look at his NOSE!" he shouted.

He did not excel in school, preferring to play video games, camp in the open spaces around Phoenix or smoke weed. He had a longtime girlfriend whom he had met through a mutual friend. (She did not respond to multiple requests to comment for this story.)

In his mid-20s, though, things slowly began to unravel, family members said. Stephan struggled to hold down a job, sometimes working as a landscaper, other times sorting items at the Goodwill Warehouse. He felt anxious around other people and was struck, sometimes, by unpredictable moods or fits of paranoia.

Once, when Ralph came to pick him up from a temporary job at the local Whataburger, Stephan shouted angrily at him for several minutes, spitting out combinations of words that his grandfather said he struggled to understand. Then, just as suddenly, the moment passed. "Are you all right?" Ralph remembers asking, taken aback.

"Yeah," Stephan responded. "I'm just goofy."

He began to see and hear things that weren't there. He told his mother that he had seen the body of a burned child in the field behind their family home. His closest friends and family, he believed, were trying to hurt him: his childhood best friend, his sister's boyfriend, his girlfriend's father and brothers.

"He thought everybody was out to kill him," Darae said.

In his late 20s, Stephan checked himself into a psychiatric clinic for three days. He came out with two diagnoses: paranoid schizophrenia and post-traumatic stress disorder.

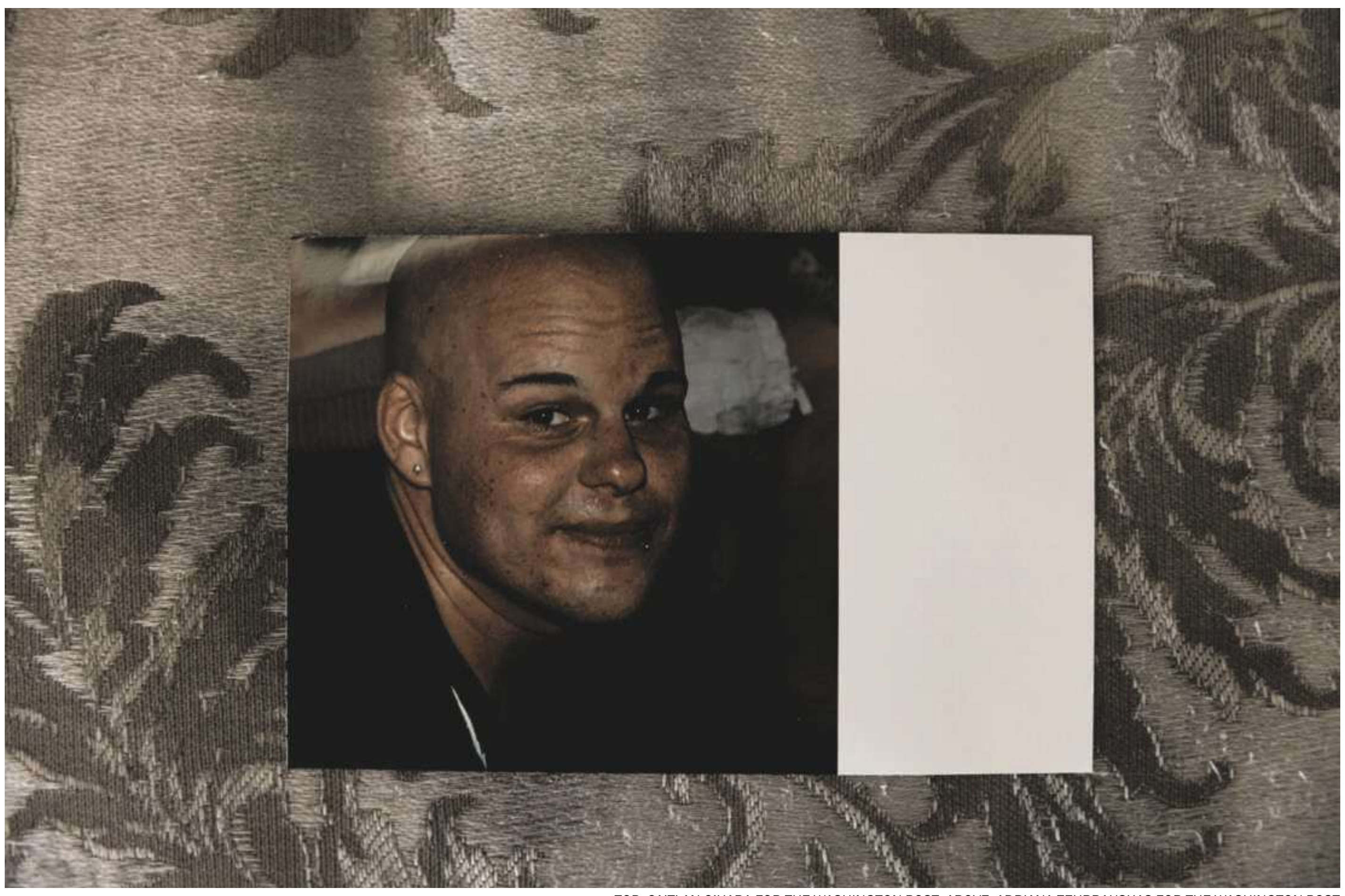
The diagnoses provided clarity but, ultimately, little help. A doctor prescribed lithium but, like many psychiatric patients, Stephan quickly stopped taking his medication. It made him feel "like a zombie," Darae recalled him saying. She urged him many times to return to the doctor to adjust his dosage, but Stephan demurred. If he went back to the hospital, he told her, they would never let him out.

He spent his days taking cans and bottles to the recycling center to earn enough money to buy a bit more weed, hanging out with his girlfriend, or offering food and water to the homeless who roamed Phoenix's streets. Although he still visited his family, he couldn't stay for more than a half-hour at a time — he would pace the living room of their small trailer, mumbling to himself.

"He was scared to death,"

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

THE HUMAN LIMIT



TOP: CAITLAN O'HARA FOR THE WASHINGTON POST; ABOVE: ADRIANA ZEHBRAUSKAS FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

TOP: The empty lot near South Mountain where Stephan Goodwin collapsed on July 14, 2022. ABOVE: Stephan in a photo belonging to his parents. As with many people with schizophrenia, Stephan's symptoms began in adulthood. His mother remembers him as a very happy child, but in his mid-20s, things slowly began to unravel, family members said.

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Darae recalled.

In August 2021, as his paranoia grew, Stephan arranged to be baptized for the second time. Darae recalls that he told his younger sister, Korina, that he was going to die soon. The baptism would help him get right with God.

7 A.M. | 97 DEGREES

The next morning, Stephan behaved strangely. When Ralph and his wife were eating breakfast, Stephan stood in the front yard, staring at the neighbor's house. Then he wandered off without saying goodbye. A few minutes later, he called his grandfather from a nearby intersection: He wanted his guns back.

Ralph drove his pickup truck to the intersection, where two sprawling four-lane roads met next to a railway track. There was no shade; across the street in a vacant lot, half a dozen RVs were clustered in the hot sun.

"Get in," Ralph said. He offered to take Stephan anywhere — to his mother's house, to his girlfriend's house.

Stephan refused. He just wanted his guns. But as he took both firearms from his grandfather, he seemed to understand that something was wrong. "I'm going to check myself into the hospital," he said, suddenly. Then he turned away.

"Stephan, wait a minute, I'll take you to the hospital," Ralph said desperately.

Briefly, Stephan looked his grandfather in the eyes. "Grandpa, I'm so sorry," he said. Then he set off down the street in the hot sun. He had no water. It was early morning, and the temperature was already over 100 degrees.

Stephan may not have known it, but his body was more vulnerable than most people's to the heat baking the four-lane road.

For almost a century, scientists have known that those with schizophrenia struggle to regulate their body temperatures. In the 1930s, two doctors in Worcester, Mass., placed people with and without schizophrenia in a small, windowless room with eight electric heaters. Under hot conditions, the researchers noted, the schizophrenic patients' body temperatures rose farther and faster than those of the control group. "Schizophrenic subjects," they wrote later, "are unable to comply normally … with the regulation of heat."

The precise reasons people with serious mental illnesses — and those with schizophrenia in particular — struggle to deal with higher temperatures remain somewhat murky. Some doctors hypothesize that schizophrenia affects the hypothalamus, the brain's inner thermostat. Schizophrenia has also been linked to problems regulating dopamine, the chemical that makes the body feel good; altered levels of dopamine can also prevent the body from effectively cooling itself off.

Some things, however, are clear. Many antipsychotic medications, which provide a lifeline to people afflicted with paranoia or delusions, also make their users more sensitive to heatstroke. Some have a side effect of suppressing sweating, which prevents the body's natural air-conditioning system from functioning normally. Other medications, like lithium — which is often prescribed to patients with bipolar disorder or schizoaffective disorder — can become toxic and deadly if the user is dehydrated.

Then there is the tendency of schizophrenic patients to wrap themselves in layers upon layers of clothing, even in boiling temperatures. "If you've ever been completely perplexed when you see someone when it's really hot out, sitting there all bundled up — that is likely a schizophrenic person," said Robin Cooper, an associate professor of psychiatry at the University of California at San Francisco.

Beth Darling, the medical director of a treatment team in the Phoenix area that serves around 100 schizophrenic patients, says people with the illness are also more likely to be unhoused than members of the general population, or to be estranged from family members or friends. They are also more likely to self-medicate with methamphetamine, fentanyl or other drugs — substances that can also alter the body's ability to sense and respond to extreme heat.

Shaun Dekutoski, a primary-care provider in Peoria, Ariz., says the situation for people with schizophrenia is akin to a perfect storm. "The more of those risk factors you have stacked on top of each other, the more vulnerable the person is."

And psychosis — the state in which schizophrenic patients lose touch with reality — is itself also a risk factor. Patients may experience delusions or hallucinations, forget where they are, or believe that others are trying to harm them. Experts also say people with schizophrenia lack insight into themselves and their condition — in medical terms, this is known as "anosognosia." In the midst of a psychotic episode, patients do not know or believe that they are sick. Darling says she's seen patients check themselves out of emergency rooms and wander the streets in scorching temperatures. "They get lost, they get confused," she said.

Under psychosis, a patient might walk for miles engaging only with the voices and characters in their own mind. Under normal conditions, that might simply be dangerous. In Phoenix, it's deadly.

11:45 A.M. | 104 DEGREES

When Darae picked up the phone, her son's voice sounded thick. "Mom, I'm dying," she recalls him saying. "You need to come get me."

"Where are you?" Darae asked. Nobody had seen Stephan for almost 24 hours; the previous day, after leaving his grandfather's house, he had made a brief stop at the home he shared with his girlfriend and her father, and then disappeared again.

More forcefully, she said, "Where *are* you, Stephan?"

Stephan didn't know — he was confused and disoriented. But he told Darae that he could see a sign that mentioned South Mountain, a 25-square-mile park on a mountain that looms over Phoenix's south side. Before Darae could ask any more questions, the line went dead.

When the body is trying to cool itself, a few things happen at once. Sweat glands begin to work, pumping a salty liquid from beneath the skin to the surface, where it evaporates and cools the skin. At the same time, the brain sends signals to the blood vessels to dilate, pushing blood away from the hot center of the body and toward the skin to cool off. These two systems working in tandem can keep the body around 98.6 degrees — for a time.

Prolonged exposure to severe temperatures, however, tests the body. The heart has to pump faster, to circulate blood for cooling. Blood pressure drops, depriving the brain and vital organs of oxygen. The person can become dizzy or disoriented; thinking slows. As body temperatures climb to 106, 107 degrees, the proteins in the cells of the body start to break down, or denature. Intestines develop holes and leak their contents into the bloodstream. Kidneys stop functioning. The body cooks.

After Stephan's calls, the Goodwins and his girlfriend rushed to send helicopters and police officers to search the network of trails that crisscrossed South Mountain. But Stephan wasn't on South Mountain; he was less than half a mile away from the park, stumbling through an isolated residential neighborhood.

The real estate agent who spotted Stephan called the police around 1:15 p.m. Initially, the 911 dispatcher told her that the fire department would arrive in three or four minutes. But then the agent noticed that Stephan had a gun in his waistband. The dispatcher told her they would have to send the police instead.

The agent was still on the phone with the dispatcher when Stephan wandered off the asphalt street and onto a vacant lot belonging to her neighbor. She watched him stumble over small rocks and pieces of dirt. Then she watched as he fell, face-first, onto the hot ground.

One black tennis shoe slipped off and lay in the dirt nearby. His body twitched.

"What do I do? What do I do?" the agent asked. She wondered if she could somehow shade Stephan to protect him from the punishing sun. The dispatcher warned her not to approach. For 21 minutes, she watched and waited for the police to arrive.

The police and EMTs arrived at 1:48 p.m. The police removed Stephan's semiautomatic pistol and turned his body over, according to a police report obtained by The Washington Post. Blood was already beginning to pool in his face and stomach, but for about 15 minutes, emergency responders tried to revive him. They placed his head on the pillow that he had carried with him for the past two days. Later, the medical examiner's report showed that the ground where Stephan fell was 136 degrees.

At 2:16 p.m. — less than 36 hours since he had apologized to his grandfather on a busy street — Stephan Goodwin was pronounced dead.

1 P.M. | 115 DEGREES

On a Friday afternoon this July, the Goodwin family gathered at Darae's two-bedroom trailer in Glendale, about 15 miles north of the vacant lot where Stephan died. It was the first anniversary of Stephan's death, and the family was planning to remember him by watching one of his favorite Disney movies: "The Fox and the Hound." Four dogs scampered in and out of the trailer — three mutts, including Stephan's old dog, Eve, and a pit bull puppy that kept nervously peeing on the kitchen floor.

The city of Phoenix was in the midst of another deadly heat wave: Over a dozen people had already died of extreme heat, and hundreds more deaths were under investigation.

The temperature was 115 degrees. The blinds were closed to keep out the sun and the afternoon heat — in one corner, an air conditioner whirred. Low couches and a few small cots filled the room; with only two bedrooms, Stephan's nephew and niece sleep in the living room most nights. On one wall of the room, just across from the front door, a small shrine hung in Stephan's memory: a photo of him, his urn decorated with green trees, and a vase with a fake stem of lemon — his favorite fruit.

For the Goodwin family, Stephan's final days feel like an endless series of what-ifs. What if he had let Ralph take him to the hospital? What if Stephan and his girlfriend hadn't argued that night? What if the police had come earlier?

Asked about the case, the Phoenix Police Department said it took about 17 minutes for them to reach the site. "Available officers from the precinct responded from their most recent location," the department said in a statement.

Sitting at the kitchen table, Darae flipped through photo albums, looking for Stephan's baby pictures. She has suffered from acute anxiety since Stephan's death — her hair has turned gray, and she struggles to sleep at night. Twice, she went to the hospital with panic attacks. She has found comfort in crocheting blankets for the homeless — she believes Stephan would have wanted her to do it. Stephan never lived on the street, but she sees in unhoused people some of the same mental health challenges that her son faced.

Sometimes she feels a sense of peace — perhaps God was relieving Stephan of the suffering caused by his schizophrenia. Other times, the weight of his death, and all of the circumstances leading up to it, threatens to overwhelm her. Surely, she feels, help could have come from somewhere: a bottle of water, a ride, another call to 911. "If only one thing had changed that day, he would still be here," Darae said

"He could have been saved," she added, almost to herself. Then, louder: "I believe he could have been saved."

THE WORLD

In Kharkiv, trying to figure out Russia's next move

Russian troops are pushing toward Kupyansk, but are they trying to seize the city previously liberated by Ukraine or aiming to divert Kyiv's forces?

BY ALEX HORTON AND SERHII KOROLCHUK

KHARKIV REGION, UKRAINE — As Russian invaders focus their fire on the strategic northeastern town of Kupyansk, a Ukrainian armor platoon, hidden under camouflage nets and the last embers of summer foliage, expressed nostalgia for the tank-on-tank battles last year that tested soldiers' will and skill.

The war is different now, said a 26-year-old commander with the call sign Leshyi. The enemy is farther away, probing for weak spots rather than full-on blitzing, forcing the Ukrainians to use tanks more like howitzers to fire at targets identified by reconnaissance soldiers. Leshyi, an unassuming, grizzled veteran, spoke on the condition that he be identified only by his call sign in accordance with military rules.

In the south, Ukrainian troops are pressing a grueling counteroffensive, fighting meter by meter to retake occupied territory from Russian forces that are dug into defensive positions. In the northeast, however, it is unclear if Russia is really trying to advance or is creating a distraction hoping to divert Ukrainian resources.

Ukrainian officials say Moscow is to trying gain ground toward Kupyansk, a small city veined with strategic roads and rail tracks, including a train line that reaches Russia's border. Russian forces occupied the town for six months last year before Ukraine took it back roughly a year ago.

Now, in a sign of the seemingly pointless destruction and circularity of this war, the Russians appear intent on seizing it again. In recent weeks they have made bloody and modest gains, prompting a public call for reinforcements from Ukraine's top commander in the east.

Officials and analysts have speculated over Moscow's goals in the area and whether they are sensible.

Seizing Kupyansk would be difficult. The city, just 25 miles from the Russian border, is bisected by the Oskil River, and crossing it would invite targeted strikes. Putting the river at their backs could also become catastrophic for the Russians if they are stymied and need to retreat.

Kupyansk is located in Kharkiv, which is not one of the four Ukrainian regions that Russian President Vladimir Putin, in violation of international law, has declared to be annexed by Russia.

"The Russians do not abandon the goal of advancing in this direction, as well as in the Lyman direction," Ukrainian Deputy Defense Minister Hanna Maliar said, referring to another city liberated by Ukraine's forces last year. "Therefore, they increasingly regroup their troops, make replacements and prepare for battles."

Russian forces carry out several attacks a day and frequently shell Ukrainian positions, although attacks have "somewhat decreased" compared with two weeks ago, Maliar said in a statement.

Civilians have been wounded and killed in the constant attacks on Kupyansk, and officials have ordered a mandatory evacuation, though only 1,400 people had left as of Aug. 30 — well short of the more than roughly 11,000 believed to still live in the area.

Barring a collapse on either side, the most likely scenario seems to be stalemate — with neither side ready or able to make substantial advances.

Whatever the objective, the Russians' push here has also drawn them closer to the barrels of the 3rd Tank Brigade. Work has been steady, and Leshyi's crew recently helped destroy some electronic warfare equipment, he said.

This indirect contact with the enemy does not offer the same instant gratification as other battles. "Most of the time we don't even know what we are shooting at," Leshyi said from the hatch of his T-72. "Sometimes we only see videos of our work."

Defense Minister Oleksii Reznikov, who resigned on Monday, said in late August that it was "logical" that the Russians would adopt a strategy of diverting Ukrainian troops from the south. But in doing so, Russia "risks dividing its forces as it seeks to prevent a Ukrainian breakthrough," Britain's Defense Ministry recently said.

In any case, the 3rd Tank Brigade is ready, and its soldiers have said they have already seen the Russians' tactics evolving after heavy losses this summer.

The Russians are no longer maneuvering in large groups, as they did early in the war, which invited coordinated Ukrainian fire, said a 45-year-old tank platoon commander with the call sign Drukar. Instead, Russian troops recently have attacked in smaller numbers, he said, probing the Ukrainian lines for weaknesses. The strategy has been uneven, Drukar said.

"They want to attack and defend at the same time," he said, "and they don't know what to do."

Other field commanders have watched the Russian troops revise their strategy, sometimes making peculiar decisions, and at other times adjusting tactics to suit their advantages.

Dolphin, a company commander in the 68th Brigade specializing in assault, said Russians in the area had fired artillery at his predecessors but did not tend to launch ground attacks. Dolphin deployed a fleet of armored vehicles, including U.S.-provided MRAPs, to take the fight closer to the enemy.

That triggered an escalation, he said, and soon Russian commanders deployed aviation units, tanks and armored vehicles against them, though they did not mobilize infantry to take ground. The Ukrainians destroyed 10 tanks in two days, Dolphin said. It was normal for the Russians to lose three vehicles in a day.

"As a result of this failed offensive, the enemy began to carry out airstrikes on the nearest villages where personnel and equipment were concentrated," he said. "Just dense airstrikes, which led to certain losses of personnel and equipment. But these actions of theirs looked like a manifestation of their weakness."

Southeast of Kupyansk, Russian helicopters strafed a band of trees with rocket fire on Sept. 1, occasionally raking it with artillery rounds. Under the canopy, Ukrainian troops, exhausted from their time in the trenches, used a footpath to evacuate a wounded soldier on a litter.

Ihor, a 23-year-old airborne soldier, smoked a cigarette and listened to the rolling machine-gun fire erupting from the area he had just left. Ihor's view of the war is confined to the space between his lines and the Russians trying to take them, leaving him to learn about the counteroffensive in the south from the news. It has been a tough fight, he said.

"The rest of the front just needs to stay and hold," he said, before moving to a rear position — and a brief respite.

Back at the tank position, Leshyi and Drukar ordered their tanks to fire up the engines for a multiday mission. Border guards found a seat on the hull, and in a plume of acrid exhaust, the tanks pulled away from the tree line toward their next objective.

Leshyi, more than two decades younger than his superior, drove out first, with the older Drukar following in the rear. A soldier joked that the order would be helpful, with the relatively spry soldiers taking the lead.

"They're young," the soldier said of the crew. "They need the training."

Kamila Hrabchuk contributed to this report.

PHOTOS BY HEIDI LEVINE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

A 26-year-old Ukrainian tank commander with the call sign Leshyi smokes a cigarette while sitting atop a Soviet-era T-72 on Aug. 30 near Kupyansk, a small city in the northeastern Kharkiv region.

Ukrainian forces with the 3rd Tank Brigade, riding in a T-72, head out on a combat mission along the northeastern front on Aug. 30.

DIGEST

GREECE

Severe floods kill total of 18 in three countries

Widespread flooding in central Greece left at least six people dead, six missing and dozens trapped, with severe rainstorms turning streams into raging torrents, bursting dams, washing away roads and bridges, and hurling cars into the sea.

Flooding triggered by severe rainstorms also hit neighboring Bulgaria and Turkey, with rescue teams in Turkey recovering the body of a 53-year-old man on Thursday, bringing the death toll in Turkey to eight, and to a total of 18 in all three countries since the rains began Tuesday.

In Greece, authorities deployed divers and swift water rescue specialists as residents in some villages took refuge on the roofs of their homes as waters rose to more than 6 feet.

Around 60 people were airlifted to safety, the fire department said.

Vassilis Kikilias, the Greek minister for climate crisis and civil protection, said more than 885 people had been rescued so far and six have been reported missing.

— Associated Press

ENGLAND

Ex-officers sent racist messages on Meghan

Five former London police officers on Thursday admitted to sending grossly offensive racist messages to each other on WhatsApp, which included references to Meghan, the Duchess of Sussex, and other members of the royal family.

The officers, who have all retired, were charged after an investigation by BBC Newsnight that discovered the men had sent the messages between August 2018 and September 2022, after they had left the police department.

Three of the messages sent featured racist comments about Meghan, who is the wife of King Charles's younger son, Prince Harry. Meghan's mother is Black and her father is White.

One included a picture of the late Queen Elizabeth II and her husband, Prince Philip, while others referenced Charles's eldest son and heir, Prince William, and his wife Catherine, Princess of Wales, along with Rishi Sunak, the first British prime minister of color.

The men pleaded guilty to sending offensive messages at a hearing in the Westminster Magistrates Court in London.

— Reuters

ITALY

Convents hid Roman Jews, research shows

Researchers have discovered new documentation that substantiates reports that Catholic convents and monasteries in Rome sheltered Jews during World War II, providing names of at least 3,200 Jews whose identities have been corroborated by the Jewish community of the city, officials said Thursday.

Researchers from Italy's Pontifical Biblical Institute, Israel's Yad Vashem Holocaust research institute and the Jewish community in Rome released the findings during a workshop on Thursday at the Museum of the Shoah, which is part of the main synagogue in Rome.

The new documentation provides names and addresses of Romans who were sheltered in Catholic institutions during the war, which had previously been reported only in vague numbers by Italian historian Renzo de Felice in a 1961 book, according to a joint statement from the Biblical Institute, Yad Vashem and the Jewish community.

The documentation was found in the archives of the Biblical Institute, the statement said. It lists more than 4,300 people who were sheltered in the properties of 100 women's and 55 men's Catholic religious orders.

— Associated Press

Teen in motorbike crash with police car declared brain-dead: The French government on Thursday called for calm after a 16-year-old boy whose motorbike collided with a police car in disputed circumstances was declared brain-dead. The lawyer for the victim's family accused police of ramming a patrol car into the teen's motocross bike during a high-speed chase outside Paris. Prosecutors said two officers were in custody pending a possible manslaughter probe. Police said the teen had failed to stop as instructed while riding along the pavement and hit a police vehicle at a crossroads.

Main opposition candidates in Nigeria appeal election ruling: The main opposition candidates in Nigeria will appeal a tribunal ruling that affirmed the victory of Bola Tinubu in a disputed presidential election in February that they claim was marred by irregularities, their lawyers said. Atiku Abubakar of the People's Democratic Party and Peter Obi of the Labour Party, who came second and third respectively, asked the court to cancel the election, alleging everything from vote fraud to failure by the electoral agency to post results electronically. They wanted Tinubu to be disqualified. But the Presidential Election Petition Court on Wednesday dismissed their petitions. No legal challenge to the outcome of a presidential election has succeeded since Nigeria returned to democracy in 1999.

— From news services

WAR IN UKRAINE

Prigozhin ally says plane crash shows Russian leadership can't be trusted

BY ROBYN DIXON AND FRANCESCA EBEL

A close confidant of Wagner Group leader Yevgeniy Prigozhin said the plane crash that killed the mercenary boss and two top aides last month might have been an internal hit, showing that "no one [in Russian leadership] can be trusted" — and no one is safe.

Maksim Shugalei, one of Prigozhin's trusted political influence peddlers, is the first member of his inner circle to speak publicly of possible government involvement in the Aug. 23 crash that killed all 10 passengers and crew aboard. Many in Russia's elite are convinced it was an assassination ordered by the Kremlin. Russian authorities have strongly denied any role.

Western analysts believe President Vladimir Putin was likely to have ordered Prigozhin's death as retribution for the rebellion his former ally led in June against Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu and chief of the general staff Gen. Valery Gerasimov. Some believe the opportunity to gain control of Prigozhin's lucrative commercial empire providing mercenaries and other services in multiple regions was a motivation.

Shugalei's comments on Telegram on Thursday, more than two weeks after the crash, show the still-simmering anger and cynicism among pro-war Russian nationalists close to Prigozhin over his death.

They also highlight the continuing fissures among Russia's elite over the conduct of a war that has shattered the country's military reputation, estranged its most important markets and undermined its global authority, with no clear benefit and no end in sight.

As Russian commanders face questions over the efficacy of the country's air defenses, two generals responsible for protecting Moscow have been arrested over alleged bribes in a shady land deal, Russian media reported Thursday. Airports in the capital have suffered temporary closures and flights have been disrupted almost nightly in recent weeks amid drone attacks.

AP

SERGEI ILNITSKY/POOL/AP

TOP: Investigators assess damage from a downed drone in Rostov-on-Don, Russia. ABOVE: Wagner Group chief Yevgeniy Prigozhin in 2017. He was killed in a plane crash last month.

Wagner mercenaries fought alongside regular Russian troops in Ukraine, where they were responsible for key gains. But Prigozhin, once close to Putin, differed with military leaders on strategy. After weeks criticizing Shoigu and Gerasimov, he led his forces on a march toward Moscow on June 23. Wagner fighters shot down Russian helicopters, killed Russian soldiers and occupied Russian military facilities.

Prigozhin called the rebellion off in a deal with Putin brokered by Belarusian leader Alexander Lukashenko that allowed the mercenaries to relocate to a base in Belarus, sign contracts with Russia's Ministry of Defense or go home. Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said at the time that Putin's word guaranteed Prigozhin's safety.

Shugalei wrote Thursday of the possibility that "internal forces" ordered the Wagner chief's death.

"If we are talking about internal forces, this means only one thing to me," he wrote. "In our country, no word given by anyone to anyone at any level can be trusted anymore."

"Secondly," he continued, "no one, no matter what their merits, position or social status, can feel safe."

He acknowledged the crash might have been the work of Russia's enemies. But "if these are external forces," he said, "it demonstrates the failure and paralysis of the Russian security services, which cannot protect high-level people even at home."

Either way, he said, the crash was clearly "not a coincidence," because Prigozhin and two top Wagner leaders were together on the same flight, "which never happened before."

Shugalei, president of the Foundation for National Values Protection, carried out some of Prigozhin's most important geopolitical influence operations. He went to Kabul in 2021 on a mission to foster ties in the Taliban. He was arrested in Libya in 2019 and accused of undermining the nation's interests after he met with Saif al-Islam Gaddafi, the son of the late strongman Moammar Gaddafi. Prigozhin financed two action movies about Shugalei, one on his imprisonment.

Russian military leaders are under new scrutiny after a Ukrainian drone landed almost on the doorstep of Russia's Southern Military District headquarters in Rostov-on-Don, a facility seized by Wagner in the rebellion. The mercenaries held several Russian generals hostage before Prigozhin made the deal with Putin. He left the city to the cheers of local residents

Videos of a fiery explosion that damaged cars and buildings near the military headquarters emerged early Thursday on Russian media. Vasily Golubev, governor of the Rostov region, said it was caused by debris from an intercepted drone. He said a second drone was shot down around 10 miles south of the city. Officials in the Volgograd region in southern Russia, an area not previously targeted, also reported a drone was shot down.

Russian officials routinely report that drones have been intercepted without causing major damage, but recent attacks on airfields deep inside the country have destroyed strategic military aircraft.

Ukraine last week launched its biggest drone attack of the war, targeting six cities including Pskov, more than 370 miles from Ukraine, demonstrating Kyiv's ability to launch attacks deep within Russian territory.

The Pskov attack destroyed two Ilyushin military cargo planes and damaged two others, satellite images showed.

Earlier, a drone destroyed a Russian Tu-22M3, a supersonic strategic bomber, at Soltsy air base in the Novgorod region northwest of Moscow, the open source military analysis group Ukraine Weapons Tracker reported. A Telegram channel with links to Russian security sources confirmed the attack; Russia's defense ministry said one plane was damaged.

Maj. Gen. Dmitry Belyatsky and Maj. Gen. Konstantin Ogienko were arrested over an alleged $300,000 bribe.

Belyatsky, commander of the 4th Air Defense Division, is under house arrest and is cooperating with investigators, the Kommersant newspaper reported.

Ogienko was fired as commander of the 1st Special Purpose Anti-Aircraft and Missile Defense Army of the Russian Armed Forces and arrested in July, Tass news agency reported. He pleaded not guilty and is being held in a pretrial detention center. If convicted, he faces up to 15 years in prison.

Secretary of State Antony Blinken, on the second day of a visit to Ukraine on Thursday, praised Ukrainians' resilience. On a visit to a former farm being cleared of mines, he spoke of the importance of the effort.

"What's hard to get our minds around is that one third of Ukrainian territory has mines or unexploded ordnance on it," he said.

"You're making your land safe for your fellow Ukrainians. You're saving lives in Ukraine, livelihoods in Ukraine, and allowing Ukraine to once again feed the world."

Blinken also visited Ukrainian border guards and a school where Russians imprisoned civilians.

He said Russian "atrocities and the impact it's having on Ukrainians of all ages continue to this very day."

"But we're also seeing something else that's incredibly powerful, and that is the extraordinary resilience of the Ukrainian people."

David L. Stern in Kyiv contributed to this report

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The port in Victoria on the Seychelles island of Mahe. The United States shut its military operation and embassy in the island nation in 1996, after the Soviet Union's collapse and the end of the Cold War.

Geopolitics pull U.S. back to Seychelles

SEYCHELLES FROM **A1**

United States pulled out, China has built schools, hospitals, houses for low-income families and public amenities, winning sympathy among Seychellois who felt abandoned by the U.S. departure.

"They do the little things that America doesn't do. This is where the Americans are weak. There is nothing we can say America built," Seychelles President Wavel Ramkalawan said in an interview. "This is why countries like China have come in, because there was a vacuum."

Seychelles officials say they are delighted to have the Americans back but also recognize that China is probably the main reason for the return, potentially pulling Seychelles into the big power rivalry.

"We cannot say we are naive. We do understand the competition going on. In the Cold War we had the United States and the Soviet Union and now it is the United States and China," Seychelles Foreign Minister Sylvestre Radegonde said in an interview. "Someone woke up and realized how important it is to counter the Chinese influence."

The United States now has ground to make up, he said. "When you are late at a party, the party starts without you, so you have to make up time. It's a fact that China has been a long time here. They have a lot of sympathy."

Most of the new embassies are in the Pacific, a strategic priority for China. The return to Seychelles underlines how the Indian Ocean is also emerging as an arena of competition between Washington and Beijing.

Bordered across a vast area by Africa, Australia, India and the Persian Gulf, the Indian Ocean is one of the world's most strategically vital waterways, the transit point for 80 percent of global seaborne trade — which in turn accounts for more than 80 percent of all trade, according to the Carnegie Endowment's Indian Ocean Initiative and the International Chamber of Shipping. Crucially, China relies on it for 80 percent of its energy supplies.

As Washington's attention strayed, Beijing's involvement in the region intensified. In 2017, China located its first overseas military facility in Djibouti, on the northwestern edge of the Indian Ocean. In a 2020 report, the Defense Department identified five Indian Ocean countries among a dozen locations where China has "likely" considered opening further bases, including Seychelles.

China is also the only country to have maintained diplomatic missions in all six of the Indian Ocean island nations that until recently were represented by three U.S. embassies, noted Darshana Baruah, who heads Carnegie's Indian Ocean Initiative.

Top Chinese officials regularly visit — China's President Hu Jintao called Seychelles "a shining pearl" during a stop in 2007, and Foreign Minister Wang Yi was here in 2021, describing Seychelles as "an important member of the big family of China-Africa solidarity and cooperation."

When the new U.S. Embassy in Seychelles was launched in June, Richard Verma, the deputy secretary of state for management and resources, became the most senior U.S. government official to visit the nation since the 1990s.

Chinese officials like to note the contrast.

"Our foreign policy is to treat every country, big or small, as an equal," said Mu Jianfeng, China's charge d'affaires in Seychelles. "I don't know why they closed and I don't know why they opened," he said of the Americans. "But if they think Seychelles is important they will have an embassy here."

ABOVE: Teachers confer in a classroom at Au Cap Primary School on Mahe as students there spend time outdoors between lessons. RIGHT: Youngsters play volleyball at a Mahe compound built by the Chinese government. Over the past two decades, Beijing has become one of the Seychelles' most important benefactors. The country's president, Wavel Ramkalawan, is happy that the United States has returned, but now the pressure is on for Washington to live up to expectations, he said. "America has to shape up. Americans have to participate."

Doing the little things

Seychelles illustrates the kind of largesse China has lavished even on some of the world's most remote countries. Best known as a tourist destination, its exquisite beaches draw mostly European tourists to its palm-fringed shores and pristine coral reefs. Almost all of its 115 islands are uninhabited, and with a land mass of 175 square miles and a population of around 100,000, it is Africa's smallest nation.

But its position on the equator and at the easternmost gateway to the African continent gives it an outsize geopolitical significance. France and Britain contested the islands in the 19th century, the United States and the Soviet Union in the 20th — and now Seychelles is finding itself caught up again between competing powers.

At first glance, China appears to have no immediate stake in the country. There is a small Chinese community of around 1,000 that dates back to the 19th century. But Chinese visitors accounted for fewer than 1 percent of the island's tourists over the past year, according to Seychellois figures, and even before the pandemic few came from China. Unusually for an African country, Seychelles does not count China among its top trading partners. Most of its goods are imported from the United Arab Emirates, South Africa and the European Union.

Yet over the past two decades China has become one of the nation's most important benefactors, embarking on the kind of soft power outreaches that have become a hallmark of its efforts to win over populations across the Global South. There have been no grand infrastructure projects, such as the multimillion-dollar ports, railways and roads that have entrenched China's hold over many developing countries, often entangling them in punishing debt. Beijing's efforts here are low-cost but have outsize impact in a country so small, and they have mostly been offered as gifts.

China built the stately white-pillared National Assembly building where the democratically elected parliament meets, and the adjoining Supreme Court, both important symbols of the country's identity as a nation. It's in the process of completing a new headquarters for the state broadcasting company, which will more than double the network's space.

Thousands of Seychellois live in housing built by China and made available at subsidized prices — a shortage of housing for the least well-off is identified by Seychelles officials as one of the country's biggest social needs.

The Chinese have invited hundreds of Seychellois on visits and scholarships to China, and China's Confucius Institute teaches Chinese classes in primary schools, the university, which China built in the 1980s, an adult education center in the capital and at the Seychelles Tourism Academy.

Ramkalawan, the president, stressed that he, along with many Seychellois, is delighted the United States has returned. Seychelles has been pushing almost since the United States left for the embassy to come back, and "we're happy it happened under our watch," he said.

But now that the United States is back, the pressure is on to live up to expectations, he said.

"America has to shape up. Americans have to participate."

Relishing the attention

So far, the return is going well, said James Donegan, who moved to the Seychelles to serve as U.S. charge d'affaires pending the appointment of a permanent ambassador. "All I can tell you is that I'm glad we're back, the Seychellois are glad we're back, and we're going to look to the future," he said.

He is busy scouting out larger premises to house the new embassy, currently located in a cramped, two-room office in downtown Victoria, the capital. China, by contrast, operates out of a spacious three-story villa-like structure with a driveway and a swimming pool — and multiple security cameras.

Maritime security is high on the U.S. agenda for its new relationship, Donegan said. In March, the United States held its first naval military exercise with France and Seychelles, and more maritime cooperation is planned to help Seychelles counter the challenges of piracy, drug smuggling and human trafficking that are identified as the island's biggest external challenges.

U.S. officials say that countering China's presence is not the only reason for the return. Although Seychelles has been a multiparty democracy for the past two decades, elections in 2020 brought an opposition party to power for the first time, and the United States wants to support what amounts to the country's first democratic transition, they say.

"I'm not saying that there isn't a concern about the Chinese presence and what the influences could be, what the implications could be strategically, but I would not want to narrow it down to a reductionist approach and say it's purely a zero-sum matter of U.S.-China," said Henry Jardine, who serves as the de facto current ambassador to Seychelles, based out of the U.S. Embassy in Mauritius; the U.S. Embassy there has been responsible for Seychelles diplomacy since the pullout in 1996.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

PHOTOS BY EDUARDO SOTERAS FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

A woman puts clothes out to dry in her garden at a housing complex built by the Chinese government on Mahe. Thousands of Seychellois live in such housing, which is made available at subsidized prices.

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

"We do see the relationship more broadly, but there are always these other questions about the strategic competition," Jardine added.

Radegonde, the foreign minister, said there is little doubt China is a key motive. "The U.S. coming back cannot be because we are lovely people," he said, adding, "We are."

Seychelles seems to relish the attention it is getting and hopes it translates into more assistance from all the countries vying for influence, which include India, the United Arab Emirates and Russia as well as the United States and China, said Ramkalawan, the president.

It is also determined not to get drawn into any rivalries, he said. "It's good if the U.S. sees us as pro-Western, the Chinese see us as friends, the Indians see us as worthwhile partners. It means we are keeping the principle of neutrality."

Suspicion about motives

How much real influence China has acquired with its efforts in Seychelles is in question, some officials and analysts say.

From China's perspective, the investments in Seychelles have been worthwhile if only because Seychelles can be consistently relied on to support Beijing's one-China principle, which holds that the island of Taiwan is an inalienable part of China, said Mu, Beijing's charge d'affaires.

But Seychelles has voted with the United States on recent resolutions condemning Russia at the United Nations, noted Jardine. Chinese attempts to promote its own form of authoritarian government appear not to have dented Seychellois pride in their democracy. In 2011, the United States established a secret drone base at Seychelles airport to assist with counterterrorism operations in Somalia and Yemen. Talks the same year between China and Seychelles to build a Chinese naval facility in Seychelles fizzled.

"It might seem anomalous that they've put in so many resources that helped to build so many buildings, they've done so much to try to gain influence but haven't really seen it. You'd be hard pressed to see where that effort to buy or co-opt influence has been successful," said Jardine.

"Could they be if they continue this very strong push? Potentially, and I think that's one of the things we're watching and concerned about," he said.

The United States retains a powerful hold over the imaginations of ordinary people, something that remains a challenge for China's quest for influence in a world where American movies, music and culture are ubiquitous. Most Seychellois speak English, one of three official languages in addition to French and Creole.

At the Seychelles Tourism Academy site where Americans once lived and partied, a group of students studying to become beauticians said they struggled to learn Chinese but enjoy the classes and are hoping more Chinese tourists visit. When asked which country they would prefer to visit, they rolled their eyes and said, "America."

"When you say America, it's the dream country," explained their teacher, Hazel Radegonde.

But there are also questions about whether the United States return to Seychelles will be enough to bring the country fully on board. The abrupt departure in 1996 once it no longer served U.S. interests left Seychellois feeling they had been used, and their return now, at a time of heightened competition with a different rival, gives rise to suspicions they are being used again, many Seychellois say.

Lawyer Phillipe Boulle remembers the excitement stirred up by the arrival of the Americans in the early 1960s, on seaplanes, he recalled.

They offered children rides on their helicopters and let them play with their walkie-talkies, a stunning innovation for a country that didn't have an airport at the time. They became part of the island's life, hosting parties, filling the nightclubs and meeting and marrying local women. Boulle went to school with the sons of American servicemen then worked as a lawyer for the embassy.

"Everywhere you would go there would be Americans, and everyone wanted to befriend Americans," he said.

But he shrugged when asked whether he's happy the embassy has returned. "Things are different now," he said, vaguely. "Everyone's competing with everyone else. As Seychellois we don't want any part of it. We don't want to take sides."

"The sole reason the Americans are here is because it's seen as an opportunity to outmaneuver the Chinese," said Ralph Volcere, who publishes the Seychelles Independent newsletter and says he's glad the Americans are coming back. But he's wary too, and suspicious of American motives.

Closing the embassy damaged perceptions of the United States, and Washington will have to work hard to convince Seychellois that their motives are genuine, he said.

"The Chinese came to build schools and houses, and the Americans are coming for naval operations," he said. "The Americans can't just come here and put warships in the port and people will be happy."

And what will happen if the rivalry with China is resolved? Will the Americans leave again? wondered Danny Faure, the former president who lost the 2020 elections to Ramkalawan. "With the United States it's always based on how they respond to geopolitical concerns," he said. "This shouldn't be a flash in the pan. If you do value the relationship, the cost shouldn't matter."

His government had good relations with the Chinese, and he visited Beijing in 2018. He says China never asked anything in return for its largesse or sought to extract any concessions from Seychelles. "Genuinely over 40 years we have become great friends," he said. "This won't change whether the United States comes or goes."

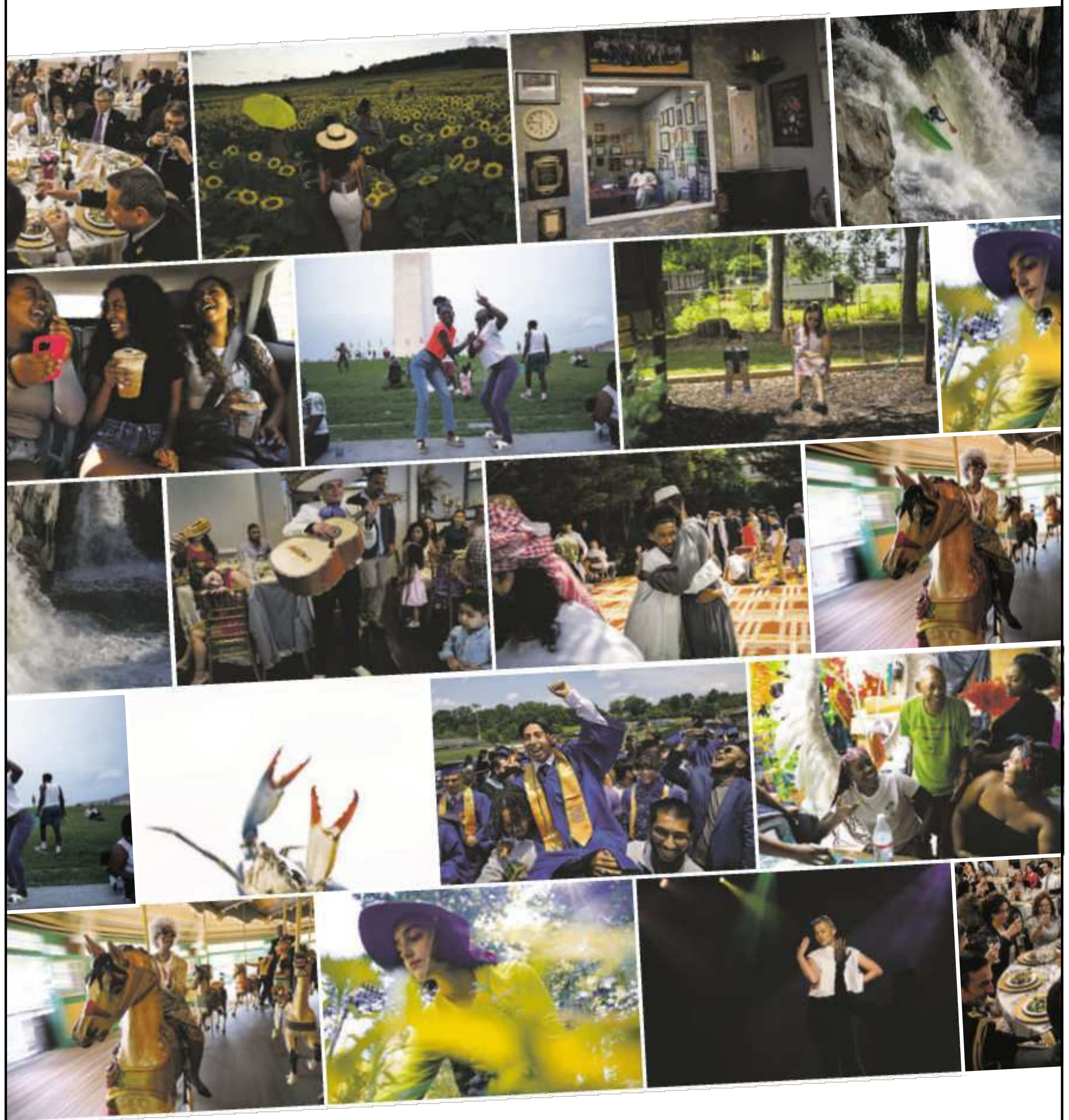
Rassin Vannier in Seychelles and Cate Brown in Washington contributed to this report.

China also built Seychelles' Supreme Court building, above, and the adjoining National Assembly building, where its democratically elected parliament meets. Such projects have largely been gifts.

SPECIAL FEATURE

A capital summer

Through the lens:
Portraits of a season in the Washington region



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See a selection of images from this feature on display at Nationals Park, Sept 1-10 in the concourse behind home plate.

Watching the throne: Solid first year for King Charles III

The monarch is popular, but he has yet to put his stamp on the institution

BY KARLA ADAM

JOSHUA LOTT/THE WASHINGTON POST

LONDON — It's no longer difficult or weird to say "King Charles" and not "Prince Charles" in the way it was in the first months after Queen Elizabeth II died.

A year since Charles III ascended to the throne — on Sept. 8, 2022 — a majority of Brits say he is doing a good job as monarch, though he's not as popular as his mum was.

Charles, 74, still has much to prove in terms of how successfully he can wield soft power and maintain the relevance of the monarchy in modern times. Expectations that he might "slim down" the institution — in terms of how many senior royals are involved, but also the costs — have yet to be met. And he doesn't appear to have made much progress on what to do about his disgraced brother, Prince Andrew, or estranged son, Prince Harry.

Royal biographer Sally Bedell Smith credited Charles with being more open, connecting with the public and showing himself to be a "very good extemporaneous speaker, much better than his mother."

"He seems to be enjoying himself, very comfortable in the role," she said, adding "one hears that he is surprised at how much work there is, doing all the boxes." As head of state, one of his duties is signing official documents carried in red boxes.

But a year in, "what we don't know yet is what big picture Charles has in mind," Bedell Smith said. "There's been a lot around the margins."

Charles's coronation was both medieval and modern

Charles's biggest success of the past year? Royal watchers pointed to the coronation on May 6.

"The coronation had his stamp all over it, a mixture of tradition and what Britain is like today," said Craig Prescott, a constitutional expert at Royal Holloway, within the University of London. "It all feels a bit sharper, more modern."

Charles played both the leading role and the director for a celebration that remained deeply religious and steeped in tradition, but was more inclusive of other faiths, gave a nod toward environmentalism and was a somewhat scaled-back affair — albeit with golden carriages.

And amid all the pageantry, Charles managed to ease Camilla into people's consciousness as queen — quietly dropping the "consort" caveat from palace communications, overruling the sentiments of those who continued to harbor loyalty to his first wife, Princess Diana.

Charles has reined in his public activism

Another delicate matter for Charles was how he would transition from activist prince to unifying king.

Unlike his mother, he is known to have strong opinions — about climate change, architecture, hedgerows. He spent a lifetime advocating for his causes. And yet there's an idea that political neutrality is essential for the survival of the monarchy in modern times.

Charles has demonstrated that he can rein it all in — indeed, some royal watchers wonder aloud whether he has been kept on too tight a leash by his coterie of advisers.

As prince, Charles had been a star speaker at climate-oriented events, including the United Nations COP26 climate summit in Glasgow, Scotland. As a new king, he agreed with then-Prime Minister Liz Truss that he would not attend COP27 in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt.

Instead, he hosted a pre-summit reception at Buckingham Palace in November, with guests including U.S. climate envoy John F. Kerry and COP President Alok Sharma. And in July, Charles met with President Biden and big-time philanthropists and financiers at Windsor Castle, as part of an effort to mobilize climate finance.

Hugo Vickers, a royal biographer, said Charles has been deploying soft power behind the scenes. "He's very active. But he's doing it privately, as a lot of monarchs have done," Vickers said. "They don't come out in the street and bang cymbals and tell you what they're thinking."

Charles in his first year hosted one big state dinner: for the president of South Africa. He undertook one overseas state visit: to Germany, where he spoke in both German and English and managed to avoid the word Brexit.

France was supposed to be part of that trip, too, but pension protests in the streets of Paris forced a postponement of that part of the tour, rescheduled for later this month.

Charles hasn't done much to reduce the cost of the crown

Beyond the coronation, some of the best headlines for Charles this past year came when he declared that profits from new wind farm deals negotiated on royal land should be redirected "for the wider public good." The Washington Post noted at the time that the king may have been trying to generate good publicity ahead of a government review of royal finances.

BINSAR BAKKARA/AP

CHRIS JACKSON/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

FROM TOP: King Charles III in his horse-drawn carriage during his coronation in May. The monarch oversaw a slimmed-down ceremony. Charles was outspoken about his environmental beliefs during his time as prince but has reined that in as king. Charles has been less indulgent of Prince Andrew, center, than his mother was.

The Treasury later announced that the taxpayer-funded stipend for the royals would remain unchanged next year at 86.3 million pounds ($107.5 million). It is expected to rise to 124.8 million pounds ($155.4 million) in 2025 and 126 million pounds ($157 million) in 2026.

Officials pointed out that the amount would have been far higher had they not changed a funding formula — the portion of Crown Estate landholding profits used to calculate the Sovereign Grant had typically been set at 15 percent, was raised to 25 percent to cover Buckingham Palace renovations, but would be reduced to 12 percent starting next year.

That's just one source of income for the royal family, though. And some critics argue there should be a more fundamental review — including questions about why the modern monarchy should be allowed lucrative tax exemptions, pay little to nothing to live in some of the finest palaces in the world and continue to profit from vast tracts of land and the seabed just because of ancient custom.

Charles's relationship with his brother and son remain fraught

Trouble within the royal family predated Charles's time on the throne. But in becoming king, he inherited responsibility for managing it.

Royal watchers say he has been somewhat less indulgent of Andrew than their mother was. Elizabeth stripped Andrew of his titles and largely banished him from public life, but was reported to have contributed to the settlement of a sexual abuse case against him.

Biographers say there is no chance of Andrew returning to royal duties while Charles is king. The prince was a guest at the coronation but played no formal role. And yet, despite reports that he might be asked to move, Andrew still resides at Royal Lodge, a sprawling mansion on the Windsor Estate. He was also included in the family's traditional summer vacation at Balmoral in Scotland, prominently driving to church with the Prince and Princess of Wales.

Relations between Charles and Harry, meanwhile, appear to have grown even frostier — especially after Harry lashed out at his family in a self-produced Netflix documentary and a memoir. Harry came alone for his father's coronation and left quickly afterward. He did not appear to be meeting with family when he was briefly in Britain this week.

But royal biographers say it may be significant that the palace did not respond to claims in the documentary or book.

Charles is "leaving the door open for Harry should he ever want to return," Vickers said.

Charles has supporters, but not so many ardent fans

Charles isn't adored, as his mother was. Even many people who object to the monarchy as an institution felt a fondness for Elizabeth. A year after her death, she is still the most popular British royal — followed by Prince William, Princess Anne, Princess Catherine and then Charles. Last weekend, fans of the late queen gathered outside Buckingham Palace, where they paraded corgis wearing crowns in her honor.

Following Elizabeth's 70-year reign was never going to be easy for Charles.

"She transcended being queen. She became this global figure," Prescott said. Charles, on the other hand, "is much more normal, more consistent with other monarchs."

But the change of sovereign for the first time in seven decades has energized the republican movement and given greater urgency to questions about the role of the monarchy in modern times.

Charles's accession prompted renewed calls from within Commonwealth realms to ditch the British monarch as their head of state. Australia announced it wouldn't put Charles on its $5 bill.

Within Britain, while the antimonarchists remain a minority, they have been out in force in a way that never happened during Elizabeth's reign. Protesters holding "not my king" posters have become the norm at royal events.

Bedell Smith said there was still time for Charles to grow in people's esteem. "It took a little time for the queen as well," she said. "It was always her mother who was beloved and the queen was admired. But after her mother's death, she really did become beloved and the nation's grandmother. Will Charles become Grandpa Britain? I don't know. Maybe."

Japan launches attempt to reach moon, in bid to stay competitive in space

After several failures, rocket carrying lander, telescope so far a success

BY MICHELLE YE HEE LEE AND JULIA MIO INUMA

TOKYO — Japan launched a lunar mission Thursday, overcoming multiple failures and delays to become the fifth country to head to the moon — just weeks after India — in a global race to better understand Earth's closest neighbor.

The small unmanned Japanese spacecraft, or the H2-A rocket, launched at 8:42 a.m. local time from the Tanegashima Space Center in southwestern Japan and flew over the Pacific Ocean. It is scheduled to enter the moon's orbit in three to four months and land early next year.

The rocket is carrying two space missions: a new X-ray telescope to help scientists better understand the origins of the universe and a lightweight high-precision moon lander that will serve as the basis for future moon landing technology. The telescope separated at 8:56 a.m., and the moon lander separated at 9:29 a.m.

The reputation of Japan's space program was on the line with Thursday's launch. Costly blunders over the past year raised the stakes for the launch and threatened Japan's standing as a leading global player in space exploration — especially on the heels of India's successful moon landing last month.

Officials at the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) breathed a sigh of relief Thursday, applauding after the final step of the launch.

"I was watching anxiously, but [the telescope] was separated successfully, to my great relief," said Kyoko Matsushita, the project scientist for the telescope, on JAXA's live feed of the launch Thursday. "We will have to continue watching carefully, but the first step was successfully done."

Last month, India landed a robotic spacecraft near the moon's south pole, a coveted area that holds water in the form of ice. Days earlier, a Russian vehicle crashed into the moon's surface in the country's first lunar mission in almost half a century. Last fall, China completed its Tiangong space station.

"This is a moment of truth for the Japanese space community," said Kazuto Suzuki, a space policy expert at the University of Tokyo's Graduate School of Public Policy. The new technology launched Thursday "will open a new horizon for the lunar exploration in a world scale, so the success of the [lander] will bring Japan into the first-tier group."

Japan's performance was also important given the nation's new national security strategy in space, developed with an eye on advancements by China and Russia. In June, Japan adopted its first space security blueprint to improve its defensive capabilities and information-gathering systems using space technology.

"Tanegashima, we have a liftoff," U.S. Ambassador to Japan Rahm Emanuel said in a statement after the launch, which he called a "significant step forward for JAXA-NASA cooperation and collaboration" and a "giant step into the future."

Thursday's lunar mission is the Smart Lander for Investigating Moon (SLIM), also called a "moon sniper" because of its super precise landing technology. Japan aims to land SLIM within 328 feet (100 meters) of its target location — much closer than conventional lunar landers, which usually have an accuracy of several kilometers.

The advanced imaging technology used in SLIM is an important part of Japan's response to China's space program. Data collected through SLIM will also be used for NASA's Artemis project, a U.S.-led effort to place astronauts in the surface of the moon and build a sustainable presence there.

"Pinpoint landing technology is being tried by some in the world, so the competition is going to be fierce. But as far as we know, SLIM will be the first in the world," Shinichiro Sakai, JAXA's project manager, told reporters in June.

SLIM is expected to enter the lunar orbit in about three to four months. In four to six months, it is scheduled to land on a small crater on the near side of the moon, called Shioli. The landing mission will study the origins of the moon and test technology that is critical to future moon landing programs, experts said.

The X-ray telescope on its way to the moon is called the X-ray Imaging and Spectroscopy Mission (XRISM), jointly developed by JAXA, NASA and other entities.

It is a new generation of high-resolution imaging that will help scientists and astronomers better study stars, galaxies and black holes — including hot plasma, the matter that makes up most of the universe.

Japan has made several attempts to reach the moon, including its Omotenashi project to land an ultrasmall probe. In November, Japan abandoned the project after failing to restore communications with the spacecraft. Earlier this year, Tokyo-based space company ispace also pulled the plug on the first Japanese private-sector attempt to land on the moon.

Japan's space missions have faced several other setbacks in the past year.

Last October, the Epsilon-6 rocket failed following a malfunction after liftoff. The rocket was ordered to self-destruct less than 10 minutes into the launch because it was not on the right path.

In March, the second-stage engine of an important new rocket, the H-3, failed to ignite. It was also ordered to self-destruct within minutes.

The rocket was the first major upgrade to the country's rocket program in over 20 years. It was designed to help the government reach its target of doubling the number of intelligence-gathering satellites to 10 by 2028.

Then in July, the new Epsilon S rocket engine exploded during a test for the second-stage engine at the Noshiro Rocket Testing Center in Akita prefecture. The explosion occurred about one minute after the test began, blowing away part of the building at the site.

JAXA is investigating the cause of the accident, which could affect the launch of the first Epsilon S rocket scheduled for 2024.

ECONOMY & BUSINESS

Cruise CEO: Angst at self-driving cars is 'sensationalized'

California regulators recently dinged the company following numerous incidents with its vehicles

BY TRISHA THADANI

SAN FRANCISCO — Residents and city officials here are increasingly fed up with the self-driving cars that have blanketed the city, as they run into issues from getting stuck in wet concrete to colliding with a firetruck.

But in an interview with The Washington Post, the CEO of the driverless car company Cruise said much of the angst should just be chalked up to anti-robot bias.

"Anything that we do differently than humans is being sensationalized," Cruise CEO Kyle Vogt said.

Cruise's driverless vehicles — part of a mass experiment on San Francisco's streets that has drawn mixed results and some protests from city leaders — have recently been dinged by state regulators, who opened an investigation last month into a spate of "concerning incidents involving Cruise vehicles in San Francisco."

While the California Department of Motor Vehicles works on its investigation, it ordered the company to reduce its fleet size in San Francisco by 50 percent — a major setback for the General Motors-owned company.

Vogt said it is an "appropriate cautionary action" for officials to take a closer look at some incidents. But overall, he said, much of the scrutiny on driverless cars is overblown.

"No one has ever been seriously hurt across several million miles of driving and hundreds of thousands of rides provided in San Francisco," he added.

Cars without drivers have become a common sight in San Francisco, where the winding, hilly and often foggy streets have proved a challenging test ground for the technology. All eyes have been on San Francisco's rollout of self-driving cars, one of the biggest test cases for a world where many companies — from Amazon to Google — envision a driverless future.

But as dozens of companies test their technology on public roads and investors pour billions of dollars into a "Jetsons"-like future, the self-driving car industry has had a bumpy start. There has been at least one documented fatality by a fully autonomous vehicle when a car operated by Uber struck and killed a pedestrian in Tempe, Ariz., in 2018. Some companies predicted that robotaxis would be widespread by the mid-2020s, but that has yet to materialize.

Meanwhile, in San Francisco, officials here have documented dozens of incidents where self-driving cars — many including Cruise — have disrupted emergency responders.

Despite protests from San Francisco city leaders, the California Public Utilities Commission last month approved permits for Cruise and another self-driving car company, Waymo, to offer 24/7 paid ride-hailing service in San Francisco. City officials immediately filed a motion against the decision, asking regulators to reconsider the expansion, arguing the city "will suffer serious harm" if the companies are allowed unfettered access to the city's public roads.

Until the DMV investigation is complete, Cruise may only have up to 50 driverless vehicles on the roads during the day and 150 driverless vehicles in operation at night.

Among the notable recent incidents involving Cruise was one in August — just a week after the company was allowed expanded access in San Francisco — where a driverless car entered the intersection of a green light and was struck by a firetruck on its way to an emergency scene. A passenger was treated at the scene for "non-severe" injuries and Cruise said it was investigating the incident.

DAVID PAUL MORRIS/BLOOMBERG NEWS

Kyle Vogt, CEO of Cruise, said backlash to driverless vehicles from San Francisco residents and city officials is anti-robot bias.

A few days prior, a car got stuck in wet concrete and had to be retrieved by a Cruise employee. Around the same time, several vehicles stalled in traffic in a busy intersection in a dense neighborhood on a weekend night. The company blamed a music festival — which was roughly four miles away — for jamming up the signal in the area and delaying the response from the company to restart the vehicles.

That incident in particular infuriated public officials, who said it was a prime example of the chaos the companies have caused on the city's streets.

Vogt, meanwhile, said it caused undue attention: "We're talking about a 15-minute traffic delay for something that, on the other hand, is providing a massive and quite measurable public benefit to the community."

Vogt said the software that the vehicles run on is updated every two to four weeks — and sometimes immediately when something more urgent arises. He said that he understands why the driverless cars draw so much curiosity and that it is "healthy" to have such public discourse around the artificial intelligence technology that is "sharing public roads with human drivers."

But, he said, it is time for the public to eliminate the "double standard" that it has for human drivers and driverless cars, saying that more "mundane" issues — like stopping short in traffic or veering into a bike lane — wouldn't catch any attention if it was a human driver, but would cause a firestorm if it was a driverless car.

"If I videotaped every single intersection, you see people blowing red lights rolling through stop signs and speeding," he said. "We're surrounded by these hazards."

San Francisco officials feel differently.

In the motion that city officials filed in August asking the state to reconsider its decision to allow Waymo and Cruise to expand their service in San Francisco, officials said incidents involving driverless cars will likely "occur more frequently with expansion and lead to similar (or possibly more serious) harms."

Phil Koopman, a Carnegie Mellon University professor who has conducted research on autonomous-vehicle safety for decades, said that if the companies continue operating without significant safety improvements it is only a matter of time before a more serious incident occurs.

"These companies are using public roads and putting all the road users at risk with immature tech," he said. "We've gotten to the point where we can live with the way human drivers are, and we have no way to know whether [the driverless cars] will be safer than humans. So why wouldn't we scrutinize?"

Despite the intense criticism, Vogt, who is also the co-founder of video game streaming service Twitch, is bullish on a future where driverless cars are the default mode of transportation in San Francisco. He said that the deployment of automated cars will ultimately lead to safer roads in a city that experienced a spike of human-driver-related road fatalities in 2022.

Vogt is also under a lot of financial pressure to turn a profit for the company, as Cruise is currently burning a lot of cash. In the first half of 2023 the company lost $1.2 billion, compared to a loss of $900 million in the first half of 2022, according GM's second-quarter earnings presentation.

As Cruise waits for the DMV to finish its investigation, he said the company is still charging ahead on more upgrades to the technology. For example, he said, it is working on "high-speed" driving so that their cars can expand their service from city streets to the highway. He also said that the company is ironing out the kinks on where and when a car stops to pick up a passenger.

But, he added: "Perfection, when it comes to driving, does not exist."

Senate confirms Biden's FCC nominee, breaking a years-long deadlock

BY CRISTIANO LIMA

The Senate on Thursday confirmed Anna Gomez, President Biden's pick for the Federal Communications Commission, ending a lengthy partisan split at the regulatory agency and giving Democrats the power to carry out major agenda items.

Senators voted 55-43 to confirm Gomez, an FCC veteran who is a communications policy adviser for the State Department. Gomez will take the third Democratic seat on the five-member commission, which oversees broadband and communications regulation.

The move returns the agency to full strength for the first time under Biden, whose initial pick for the FCC role, Gigi Sohn, withdrew after a contentious 16-month confirmation battle. The impasse had left the agency without a Democratic majority for the entirety of Biden's term until now.

Consumer advocates said the 2½-year delay hampered the FCC's ability to carry out critical tasks aimed at protecting Americans from potential abuse by the telecom giants, including reinstating the Obama-era net neutrality regulations, which bar internet service providers from blocking or throttling content.

Gomez's confirmation could also unlock the agency's ability to carry out more aggressive oversight of the telecommunications sector, which Biden called for in a 2021 executive order, including potentially imposing more stringent utility-style regulation under Title II of the Communications Act of 1934.

Biden initially nominated Sohn, another FCC alumna and longtime consumer advocate, for the agency's third Democratic seat in October 2021. Senate Republican leaders sharply criticized Sohn as a "partisan," citing her past remarks and social media activity on political matters, and conservative groups mounted a campaign to tank her nomination.

In March, Sen. Joe Manchin III (D-W.Va.) dealt Sohn's nomination a major blow by publicly opposing her and accusing her of holding "partisan alliances with far-left groups."

SHUTTERSTOCK

Anna Gomez, a nominee to serve on the Federal Communications Commission, appears before a Senate panel in June.

Sohn withdrew hours later, citing what she called "unrelenting, dishonest and cruel attacks" against her spurred on by cable and media industry lobbyists.

Sohn, who would have been the agency's first openly gay commissioner, said in an interview after withdrawing that she also faced repeated attacks over her sexual identity.

Biden nominated Gomez to fill the seat in June, with the White House touting her "extensive experience in domestic and international communications law and policy" in its announcement.

Sen. Ted Cruz of Texas, the top Republican on the Senate Commerce Committee, expressed reservations about Gomez's views during her June nomination hearing, saying he was not confident that she "possesses the independence and regulatory humility necessary for confirmation." But the panel advanced her nomination in July.

Once sworn in, Gomez will become the first Latina to serve on the commission since Gloria Tristani stepped down from the agency in 2001, according to the National Hispanic Media Coalition advocacy group. Hispanic civil rights groups had long called on Biden to fill the FCC's third seat with a Latina or Latino nominee, even as Sohn's nomination was still pending.

Sen. Ben Ray Luján (D-N.M.), chairman of the Senate Commerce communications subcommittee and one of a half-dozen Hispanic members of the Senate, said he was "proud" that Gomez's confirmation would bring a "strong Latina" to the FCC, which has spearheaded efforts to boost diversity in the media industry.

"To me, diversity matters with thought and experience in this space," Luján told The Washington Post in a brief interview Wednesday.

During the Trump administration, the Republican-led FCC spearheaded sweeping efforts to deregulate the telecommunications sector, moves that Democrats are now expected to reverse.

Five GOP lawmakers voted to confirm Gomez on the floor Thursday: Sens. Shelley Moore Capito (W.Va.), Susan Collins (Maine), Mike Rounds (S.D.), Lisa Murkowski (Alaska) and Todd C. Young (Ind.).

Gomez also secured the support of key independents and Democrats seen as potential swing votes while Sohn's nomination was pending, including Manchin.

DIGEST

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

Philips agrees to settle CPAP machine claims

Philips Respironics, the maker of popular CPAP sleep apnea machines, has agreed to pay $479 million to settle some claims that its devices spewed carcinogenic foam and gas into the mouths of its customers.

The company will pay those who purchased, leased or rented its recalled machines $55 to $1,552 per device, depending on the model, as well as an additional $100 for every device returned, according to court filings. Philips did not admit liability as part of the settlement.

The settlement only covers the reimbursement costs of users and vendors who financed the devices. Claims made for the costs of personal injuries and medical expenses are not included in the settlement and remain ongoing, according to the filings.

The company has recalled 10.8 million of its sleep apnea devices and replaced 2.5 million in recent years, including ventilators and BiPAP and CPAP models. The oldest of the models it has recalled date back to 2009.

— Eli Tan

TECHNOLOGY

China's iPhone curbs roil sector's stocks

China's widening curbs on iPhone use by government staff raised concerns among U.S. lawmakers Thursday and fanned fears that American tech companies heavily exposed to China could take a hit from rising tensions between the countries.

Apple slid about 6.5 percent in two days, wiping out $190 billion in value, after media reports that Beijing has told employees at some central government agencies in recent weeks to stop using their Apple mobiles at work. Apple suppliers such as Qualcomm and Micron Technology also fell.

Several Wall Street analysts said the curbs show that even a company with a good relationship with the Chinese government and a large presence in the country was not immune to rising tensions between the two nations.

Friction between China and the United States has worsened in recent years as Washington tries to restrict China's access to key technologies, including cutting-edge chip technology, and Beijing looks to reduce its reliance on American tech.

— Reuters, Bloomberg News

LABOR MARKET

Unemployment claims drop unexpectedly

U.S. employers have yet to ramp up layoffs as many economists have predicted, data out Thursday showed in the latest indication of a job market refusing to buckle in the face of the Federal Reserve's efforts to slow it down.

New filings for unemployment benefits fell unexpectedly last week — down 13,000 to 216,000, the lowest level since February — and the ranks of those receiving jobless benefits for more than a week slid in the week before that to the lowest since July, the Labor Department said in its weekly reading.

While other data on the job market recently has shown signs it is softening, Thursday's data reinforces the view that it remains robust by historical standards. That may lead the Fed to keep interest rates high for some time to bring inflation back to its 2 percent target.

A separate Labor Department report Thursday showed labor cost pressures had eased substantially in the second quarter and worker productivity jumped by the most in nearly three years.

— Reuters

ALSO IN BUSINESS

World Bank economist Adriana Kugler was confirmed Thursday by the Senate to the Federal Reserve Board of Governors, where she will help set interest rates for the world's biggest economy. Kugler, whose research has focused on labor markets, is the first Latina to join the U.S. central bank's board in its 109-year history. The vote was 53-45, with a few Republicans backing a nomination that was championed by Cuban American Sen. Robert Menendez (D-N.J.).

Walmart is making adjustments to its pay scale that mean some new store workers will begin at a lower hourly rate than they would have a few months ago. The change, which became effective in July and was first reported Thursday by the Wall Street Journal, will create consistency in starting hourly pay at individual stores, spokeswoman Anne Hatfield said. She said pay differences made it hard to move employees to different areas of the store, and said the change will result in more consistent staffing, better customer service and more opportunities for associates. Hatfield said there will be no pay cuts for current employees.

— From news services

Other programs that aid underrepresented groups in peril

SBA FROM A1

enough to automatically qualify as socially disadvantaged — a key step in making it into the program. Instead, in a mass email distributed Aug. 22 by SBA officials, business owners were instructed to submit an essay demonstrating that race had hindered their success.

The revisions sparked a "full-blown panic" from many small-business owners who had benefited from the social disadvantage presumption, said Nicole Pottroff, a government contracts lawyer with Koprince McCall Pottroff in Lawrence, Kan., who for years has helped businesses apply for the program.

"I had a lot of initial calls from clients, from blog readers, from contractors across the board, asking: 'What does this mean?'" she said, adding that she has seen a "massive influx" of businesses needing help with crafting the essays.

Approximately 4,800 businesses participate in the 8(a) program, and nearly 4,000 of them were certified under the presumption of social disadvantage, according to the SBA. In 2020, 8(a) firms were awarded $34 billion in government contracts, according to a Congressional Research Service report.

"The SBA is proud of our work to promote equity and level the playing field in federal procurement to attract a diverse supplier base and ensure competition, innovation, and performance," SBA Administrator Isabella Casillas Guzman said in a statement, adding that the agency is working with the Justice Department to determine its next steps.

In the meantime, additional SBA staff are being trained to review the narratives, according to the agency, which is working with the Justice Department to create additional guidance for businesses and the agencies they work with. The Justice Department declined to comment on whether it will appeal the judge's ruling.

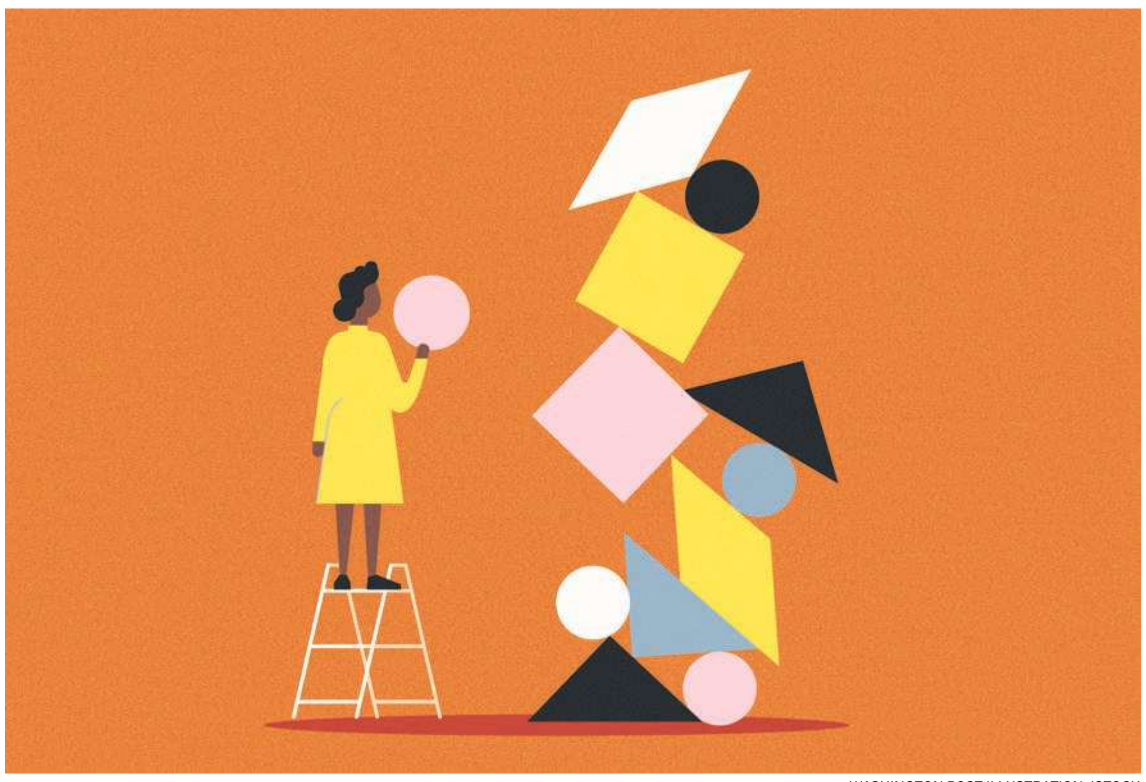
Michael Rosman, general counsel of the Center for Individual Rights, a conservative public interest law firm that sued the SBA on behalf of a White business owner, Celeste Bennett, praised the court ruling. In a statement, Rosman said that "we and our client are pleased that we were able to achieve a significant goal of the litigation: eliminating the explicit use of race in determining who is entitled to participate in a very advantageous federal contracting set-aside program."

The upending of the 8(a) program marks one of the first casualties in the business world of the Supreme Court's landmark decision holding that race-conscious admissions programs at Harvard and the University of North Carolina violate the Constitution's guarantee of equal protection. The 8(a) program's reliance on the presumption of social disadvantage was similarly unconstitutional, District Judge Clifton L. Corker wrote in his July 19 order enjoining the SBA from using the presumption.

Corker, who was appointed by former president Donald Trump, referred to the Harvard case nine times, in what observers called one of the first interpretations of the Supreme Court's affirmative action ruling. "The facts in Students for Fair Admissions, Inc. concerned college admissions programs, but its reasoning is not limited to just those programs," Corker wrote in a footnote.

The SBA changes come amid a broad legal assault on diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) initiatives in the private sector, one that has only intensified in the wake of the Harvard and UNC decisions. Edward Blum, the conservative activist behind the two college admissions cases, has several pending lawsuits targeting private-sector DEI programs. And in July, more than a dozen Republican attorneys general fired off letters warning the nation's largest companies that explicit racial quotas and preferences in hiring and promotions would invite legal action.

That a judge struck down the SBA's use of the presumption of social disadvantage "wasn't completely surprising to us because we've known that there's been a number of cases that have been brought [and] funded by conservative legal foundations that have always questioned any affirmative action," said Antonio Franco, managing partner at PilieroMazza, based in Washington, which works with government contractors to apply for the 8(a) program.



WASHINGTON POST ILLUSTRATION; ISTOCK

After the Harvard-UNC rulings, Franco said he remembered thinking it was "only a matter of time before that same kind of ruling comes out with regard to the 8(a) program."

Other government business programs meant to benefit disadvantaged groups may also be vulnerable, Franco added. He cited the Transportation Department's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise program, which dispenses transportation-related construction contracts to minority-owned businesses. Though different from the 8(a) program in some respects, it relies on the same social disadvantage presumption.

Pottroff said the Harvard-UNC rulings have essentially made no SBA program safe from scrutiny and legal challenges, including the Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business program, Women-Owned Small Business program, the Small Disadvantaged Business program and the Historically Underutilized Business Zones program — all of whose certifications are key in helping disadvantaged business owners win contracts throughout the federal government.

"I am very concerned that the [8(a)] program itself is going to be on the chopping block at some point, and I think that is why SBA is swiftly implementing things and trying to appease the courts … because they don't want the entire program to be on the chopping block," she added.

To qualify for the 8(a) program, a small business must meet several requirements — including being 51 percent owned by U.S. citizens who are socially and economically disadvantaged. Economic disadvantage is defined as having a personal net worth of $850,000 or less, an adjusted gross income of $400,000 or less and assets totaling $6.5 million or less. Social disadvantage is defined as racial prejudice — or cultural bias — within American society stemming from circumstances beyond an individual's control, and people of certain races and ethnicities were automatically assumed to be socially disadvantaged without further proof.

Those who did not benefit from the presumption of social disadvantage were required to write a narrative citing specific instances in which an objective distinguishing feature negatively impacted a business owner's advancement in the business world, and that disadvantage must be "chronic and substantial," according to Pottroff. Often, business owners who applied to 8(a) through the narrative did so on the basis of their gender, sexual orientation or a disability, she said, and they were often extensive and detailed documents. Though they had a high success rate, Pottroff said, crafting narratives requires the help of lawyers and imposes a substantial financial burden.

The ruling against the 8(a) program came in a lawsuit filed in March 2020 by Ultima Services Corp., an administrative and technical support business. Ultima's owner, Celeste Bennett, claimed she was precluded from being awarded a contract under the 8(a) program because she is White.

Filed against both the U.S. Agriculture Department and the SBA, the lawsuit claimed that Ultima lost out on USDA contracts that went instead to businesses participating in the 8(a) program. Because Bennett did not benefit from the presumption of social disadvantage, she argues that the program discriminated against her.

The lawsuit argues that 8(a)'s "rebuttable presumption" of social disadvantage — the presumption that Black, Hispanic, Native American and Asian people are in all cases socially disadvantaged — violates the Fifth Amendment, which covers due process rights but also incorporates the 14th Amendment's equal protection clause when applied to the federal government, according to Corker's order.

In his decision, Corker wrote that the SBA and the USDA failed to establish a "compelling interest" in their use of the presumption, meaning they did not provide enough evidence that it was needed to remedy the effects of past discrimination. Moreover, Corker wrote that the presumption's reliance on broad racial categories was not "narrowly tailored" to address past discrimination. The judge cited the Harvard case in reaching both decisions.

In a March 2022 deposition, Bennett said she had never applied to the 8(a) program. When asked why, she responded, "Because I am White, and I would never be accepted into the program." She added that — for businesses that did not benefit from the presumption — the process for establishing social disadvantage was a "farce."

Bennett said she started her business, Lusa, in Maryland with $5,000 and acquired Ultima in 2002 with $20,000 that she borrowed from her father, who also owned a government contracting business. In the deposition, Bennett added that she later borrowed approximately $500,000 from her father's company after being denied loans at several banks over the course of about five years.

In 2019, court documents show Lusa was awarded two contracts from the Natural Resources Conservation Service worth $3.8 million through a women-owned small-business program.

Asked during her deposition why she chose to take advantage of the program for women but wanted to challenge a similar program for minorities, Bennett replied, "Because I don't set the rules, and I need to play."

The Washington Post | LIVE

Friday, Sept. 8 at 9:00 a.m.

Reston discusses how the 2024 presidential election is entering a new phase. Next, Hewitt and Rubin break down the week's big stories, including Mike Pence's strongest rebuke yet of Donald Trump and more U.S. aid pledges for Ukraine.

MAEVE RESTON
National Political Reporter

HUGH HEWITT
Contributing Columnist

JENNIFER RUBIN
Opinions Columnist

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FRIDAY OPINION

A world on fire: How the G-20 can douse the flames

BY BONO AND LAWRENCE H. SUMMERS

ALEXANDROS AVRAMIDIS/REUTERS

Panagiotis Arabatzis, 57, hugs his son Stamatis, 13, as they watch a wildfire near Lefkimi, Greece, on Saturday.

Wildfires of all kinds.

This has been the hottest summer, not just in both of our lives but possibly in 120,000 years, according to leading scientists. Yet it is likely to be the coolest we'll experience for the rest of our lives.

It's a startling thought and one to stop on before checking the exits — if we can find any.

That means more heat, more drought and more wildfires like this summer's devastating blazes in Maui and the Mediterranean basin. But it also means more pressure on a global economy already feeling the strain.

Because the climate crisis unaddressed will become development in reverse, undoing decades of social and economic progress in regions that did nothing to cause it.

This is a time to plan, not panic. To organize, not agonize. There are strategies we can adopt before the next time we hear someone shout "Fire!" and we realize it's the global economy itself that has gone up in flames.

Already, the world economy is faltering and fragmenting, with sticky inflation and a cost-of-living crunch continuing to bite hard. And if the still-lingering pandemic and climate change were not enough, the world's low- and middle-income countries could face their second major food security shock in less than a year as Russia again wields grain as a weapon of war.

It's hardly surprising that more countries across the Global South are losing patience with our model of rules-based freedom and democracy. Long lectures from richer to poorer countries, followed by little investment, just isn't working as a formula for winning the benefit of the doubt for the idea of liberal democracy.

Consider this: When Greece, with a population of 10 million, faced profound banking and budget problems in 2010, the International Monetary Fund and European Union committed more than 100 billion euros to the rescue and to prevent financial contagion in Europe. Vastly more was committed by European finance ministers and the European Central Bank. Yet, as the planet burns, as a generation's progress against poverty in some of the world's poorest countries erodes, and as thousands if not millions of lives are lost, no remotely comparable effort has been mounted.

A generation ago, we — a rock star and an economist — joined forces with millions of activists, faith leaders and the World Bank, IMF and their shareholders to secure the Jubilee debt deal, which offered budgetary space to countries saddled by debt so large and unyielding that they faced the real threat of collapse.

Now, we come together again because the need is even greater for decisive financial action on behalf of the world's poorest people. The upcoming Group of 20 leaders' summit in New Delhi offers a chance for us to connect the dots among the climate crisis, growth and development, and the roles they play in geopolitical tensions.

Such strategizing is only possible if low-income and vulnerable countries have a say. As we've seen time after time at these forums, either you've got a seat at the table or you're on the menu. The African Union must have a permanent seat on the G-20.

With Africa's population expected to double to nearly 2.5 billion by 2050 and include 1 in 3 of the world's youths, there can be no global solutions without African leadership and innovation. As was headlined at this week's Africa Climate Summit in Nairobi, the African continent is home to 60 percent of the world's best solar potential, its rainforests absorb more carbon than the Amazon, and it accounts for 71 percent of global cobalt production and 77 percent of platinum, all vital to a green transition. Unleash this potential, and we open up possibilities for a cooler and brighter future for everyone.

But that's not where we are headed. African countries are confronting a "big funding squeeze," according to the IMF. External finance has dried up, and when African governments aren't locked out of international capital markets, they face ever-steeper costs to secure new investment. With rising interest rates, African countries are paying 500 percent more to borrow from the private market than they would pay if sufficient capital were available from the World Bank. More than half of the low-income countries that are in or at risk of debt distress are in Africa, forcing their governments to choose between servicing debt, investing in their people or protecting the planet.

So, three big ideas for New Delhi that would help put out and prevent future economic fires:

One. Ramp up all the multilateral development banks, starting with the World Bank. These institutions are unique in their ability to leverage resources. Indeed, loan guarantees that would cost the U.S. federal budget just $1 for every American, or about $300 million, would permit the World Bank to extend its lending by $15 billion. And the efforts of any country are further magnified as all others contribute.

With all the help a world on fire needs, it should not be acceptable that donor contributions to the World Bank's arm for supporting the world's poorest countries have failed to keep up with inflation over the past decade. Even more problematic is the reality that, at present, total lending from the development banks is roughly equivalent to the amount they are repaid by developing countries.

Long lectures from richer to poorer countries, followed by little investment, just isn't working as a formula for winning the benefit of the doubt for the idea of liberal democracy.

During its year-long G-20 presidency, India convened an expert group on the multilateral development banks co-chaired by one of us (Summers), and its report calls for a triple agenda that, if adopted, would be transformative. The world could move to such a triple mandate by embracing global challenges such as climate and pandemics, along with shared prosperity and poverty reduction. It could respond to the African Finance Ministers' call for a tripling of the World Bank's International Development Association facility that provides very low-interest financing to the poorest countries. And it could use the power of modern finance, along with new capital infusions, to triple the volume of available and affordable lending to $400 billion a year.

Two. The G-20 should demand that the IMF move deeper on debt and further on flexibility. With scores of countries looking over the cliff at debilitating debt crises, the fund needs to accelerate its drive to fashion a solution at scale. The G-20's Global Sovereign Debt Roundtable, co-chaired by the IMF, World Bank and India, as current chair of the G-20, is making some progress, but it is modest and incremental. Zambia recently reached a deal on its debt — but it took two years. We're racing against the clock, and the clock is winning. The cost of debt is rising parallel to increases in interest rates, meaning that the price tag for Africa has now increased by $56 billion. It's like watching your adjustable mortgage rate go through the roof while managing a pay cut.

The IMF also needs to revamp its Resilience and Sustainability Trust, a new facility designed to help countries with constrained budgets tackle global challenges like climate change. As currently designed, it does not enable substantial resource transfers. Only $614 million has been disbursed so far at a time when resource needs are measured in the hundreds of billions and committed future disbursements are less than $5 billion. Given all that emerging markets are facing, the IMF needs to establish a mechanism that can provide support at scale to countries facing external challenges that make them victims of problems beyond their control. When a country is suffering not primarily as the result of its own policy errors, it should not be required to accept IMF policy conditionality to receive support.

And three. Russia's immobilized assets should be used to rebuild Ukraine and repair the damage caused by Vladimir Putin's invasion, a trail of wreckage that has devastated Ukraine's critical supply chain to the developing world, creating a food-insecurity crisis and accelerating the risk of starvation in countries hit by drought and conflict. Roughly $300 billion in Russian central-bank assets is frozen in Western accounts, and there is clear legal precedent for such funds' use to compensate the victims of aggression. We need to start deploying these resources now to undermine Putin, to uphold justice and to ensure that, at a time of maximum need across the globe, we are financing Ukraine's reconstruction while also getting resources to the world's poorest people.

In New Delhi, where we hope the G-20 will become the G-21, some will simply admire the same problems that others are straining to solve. Some will bring sparks. Some might even fan the flames.

But the world doesn't need any more arsonists. The world needs its firefighters at last to leave the station, which means leadership that recognizes the danger we're all facing. The three actions we put forward today can supply some of the speed and scale of response that's required.

Bono is the co-founder of ONE, a global campaign to end extreme poverty and preventable disease, and the lead singer of the rock band U2. Lawrence H. Summers, a professor at and past president of Harvard University, was U.S. treasury secretary from 1999 to 2001 and an economic adviser to President Barack Obama from 2009 through 2010.

JASMINE M. GREEN

The Tulsa race massacre's 'public nuisance' is an ongoing injustice

One hundred and two years ago, government officials in Tulsa failed to protect Black residents when a White mob set their neighborhood on fire.

Today, the city and the state continue to deny their responsibility to address the devastation that began with the Tulsa race massacre. Now that Oklahoma's Supreme Court has agreed to reconsider a lawsuit filed by three centenarian survivors, there's hope the situation might finally change.

But change is possible only if the state's Supreme Court gives the plaintiffs the opportunity to demonstrate a simple reality: Justice for the massacre is as important for Tulsa's present and future as it is for Tulsa's past.

It was May 31, 1921, when an armed mob invaded "Black Wall Street," the thriving Greenwood community in north Tulsa. The neighborhood was home to a large network of Black professionals and business owners — that is, until a rumor that a Black man had assaulted a White woman prompted a band of White men to destroy it.

The destruction and carnage left Greenwood unrecognizable. Houses and buildings burned for nearly two days before authorities put an end to the violence. By June 1, as many as 300 Black residents were dead and thousands more were displaced, left to salvage what little remained of their possessions and livelihoods. The massacre caused an estimated $200 million in damage (in today's value) — but the survivors received nothing in compensation.

The lawsuit that seeks justice was filed in 2020 by three plaintiffs: Viola Fletcher, now 109; Hughes Van Ellis, 102; and Lessie Benningfield Randle, 108 — the last known survivors of the massacre. The lawsuit alleges that the damage it caused created and sustained a public nuisance, and that the city of Tulsa has unjustly enriched itself from this history.

In July, Tulsa County District Court Judge Caroline Wall dismissed the lawsuit, but the plaintiffs' appeal has made it to the Oklahoma Supreme Court, which has agreed to decide whether the lower court should reconsider the lawsuit.

The plaintiffs are not demanding financial compensation for violent actions carried out a century ago. In fact, the survivors aren't demanding any form of compensation at all. At this early stage in the legal process, all they're asking for is a trial — an opportunity to prove that Tulsa has violated, and continues to violate, Oklahoma's public-nuisance statute by having allowed the massacre's fires to smolder.

They want the court to abate the public nuisance and determine an appropriate remedy. What this remedy looks like — rebuilding the hospital, establishing a land trust, expanding scholarship funds for descendants of survivors, perhaps — is for the lower-court judge to decide.

The defendants — which include the city of Tulsa, the Tulsa County Sheriff's Office, county commissioners, the Tulsa Chamber of Commerce and the Oklahoma Military Department — deny that the government retains any culpability for the massacre or its aftereffects. John Tucker, an attorney for the Chamber of Commerce, says there is no ongoing public nuisance in Greenwood, despite evidence of racial inequalities that continue to deepen. A year before the massacre, White and Black homeownership in Tulsa was nearly identical. Today, White Tulsans are almost twice as likely as Black Tulsans to own a home.

The massacre also produced racial disparities in health care. Before 1921, Greenwood residents were served by at least 17 Black physicians, and the neighborhood boasted its own hospital — a facility that, along with at least 10 Black-owned doctor's offices, was lost to the fires.

Today, no full-service hospitals operate in north Tulsa, where the majority of residents are Black. The area also has a shortage of urgent-care facilities, trauma centers and primary-care physicians. Meanwhile, in south Tulsa — where roughly 70 percent of residents are White — stand three general hospitals.

If the legal phrase 'public nuisance' sounds like an understatement of the terror inflicted on Black Tulsans in 1921, it is. But it is safer than bringing up the word 'reparations,' which is known to scare people — White people, especially.

Assistant Attorney General Kevin McClure maintains that the plaintiffs have failed to "properly allege how the Oklahoma Military Department created (or continues to be responsible for) an ongoing public nuisance."

The first night of the massacre, the Oklahoma National Guard deployed officers to guard the homes of White residents against a Black counterattack that never came. Then, the guard forcefully detained Black residents in internment camps for weeks. Prolonging the massacre's violence, then imprisoning the survivors — these past actions contribute to today's inequality.

Some city officials have acknowledged the government's shortcomings involving the massacre. In 2001, Tulsa bestowed medals of distinction to the then 118 living survivors and commissioned a report that unearthed previously suppressed details of the violence. In 2021, on the 100th anniversary, Mayor G.T. Bynum publicly apologized for Tulsa's failure to protect Black residents from injury during the massacre and from discrimination in the years afterward. And Adjutant Gen. Michael Thompson — the first Black commander of the Oklahoma National Guard — issued a public apology in 2021 for his state guard's "unwillingness to do the right thing 100 years ago."

Yet none of these ceremonial gestures helped rebuild Greenwood's lost strength. And so the three plaintiffs carry on the fight for justice.

If the legal phrase "public nuisance" sounds like an understatement of the terror inflicted on Black Tulsans in 1921, it is. But it is safer than bringing up the word "reparations," which is known to scare people — White people, especially. While 77 percent of Black Americans believe that descendants of enslaved people are entitled to some form of reparations, only 18 percent of Whites feel the same.

The last three survivors of the Tulsa race massacre lived through their homes being set aflame by racial hatred. They saw those who shared their nightmarish experiences be denied justice over and over — by the police, who armed the mob during the massacre; by insurance companies, which refused to pay claims to Black property owners; and by the justice system, which has never prosecuted anyone for the killings and has dismissed nearly every lawsuit filed by survivors since 1921.

The Oklahoma Supreme Court needs to accept the plaintiffs' appeal and do so quickly. The last survivors are nearing the ends of their lives, and the wounds from the massacre continue to fester. The state can no longer flout its responsibility to help Greenwood heal. Oklahoma must make a real effort to end the ongoing racial injustices in Tulsa.

The writer is a Post Opinions intern.

The Washington Post
AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

EDITORIAL

JACQUELYN MARTIN/AP

Officials from the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, the National Security Agency, the CIA, the FBI and the Justice Department prepare to testify at a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing on Section 702 on June 13 in Washington.

Fix — don't ditch — this critical national security law

FISA's Section 702 has been abused. But it has also safeguarded the country.

SECTION 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA), a long-controversial tool, could expire at year's end. Many lawmakers are wary of renewing the statute, with opponents labeling it an Orwellian law too easily abused to snoop on Americans. Some are understandably angry that Federal Bureau of Investigation agents improperly searched data collected by the National Security Agency, which is supposed to target foreign threats.

Yet ditching the law would rebuild the wall between foreign intelligence gathering and domestic law enforcement that made the Sept. 11, 2001, hijackers hard to detect. It can be improved instead, preserving important national security powers and Americans' privacy.

Passed in 2008, Section 702 governs what had been a secret President George W. Bush-era program of warrantless surveillance of foreigners' communications, adding critical guardrails on collecting targets' calls, emails and more. Reauthorized in 2012 and 2017, the provision has proved vital.

Data gathered under this program has helped foil terrorist attacks, spy rings, assassination plots and cyber intrusions into critical infrastructure. It has also detected election interference, illegal technology exports and fentanyl imports. According to the National Security Agency, 59 percent of the items in the President's Daily Brief last year cited signals intelligence obtained via 702.

The program allows the government to target specific non-Americans believed to be operating outside the country and likely to communicate foreign intelligence information. It does not permit bulk data collection. Although 702 cannot be used to target Americans, intercepting the communications of foreigners inevitably leads to the incidental collection of conversations with or about Americans.

Whether that information should be accessible to the FBI without a search warrant remains controversial, but there are good reasons it should be. The data is critical to combating Chinese intelligence officers who regularly reach out to hundreds of Americans in hopes of turning them into spies for Beijing. The information helps the bureau ascertain whether someone is unwittingly communicating with a would-be handler and needs a defensive briefing or they're deeper into the recruiting cycle, in which case the FBI can pursue a traditional FISA warrant to target the potential traitor.

But there remains potential for witting or unwitting abuse. The FBI misused the authority more than 278,000 times in 2020 and early 2021, according to a Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court opinion unsealed in May. These searches failed to meet one or more of the three-prong test to query the database: Agents must have an authorized purpose, a reasonably designed search that's not overly broad and a specific factual basis to believe that they're reasonably likely to retrieve foreign intelligence information.

Agents searched the 702 databases to check whether people arrested at Black Lives Matter protests and after the Jan. 6, 2021, Capitol insurrection had links to foreign intelligence services. One person searched for the names of 19,000 donors to a congressional candidate. A court opinion unsealed in July revealed that the FBI improperly queried the names of a U.S. senator and a state senator, as well as the Social Security number of a judge. Rep. Darin LaHood (R-Ill.) said in March that he was notified that his name was wrongly used in an FBI search of 702 data. Other noncompliant searches have included the names of prospective FBI employees, journalists and crime victims.

Over the past few years, the FBI has issued more detailed guidance and implemented several changes. Agents must type in a case-specific justification for why a search is necessary instead of selecting from a drop-down menu of generic rationales. Anyone with access to the material must receive annual training. An FBI attorney must preapprove any "batch job" that would result in more than 100 searches. Since last year, the deputy FBI director must personally sign off on queries involving elected officials, members of the media, academics and religious figures.

These changes have resulted in a more than 90 percent drop in FBI queries of 702 data; the FBI searched for information on 119,383 Americans from December 2021 to November 2022, according to an April report from the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, down from 2,964,643 the year before. For context, the government targeted 246,073 foreigners for collection last year.

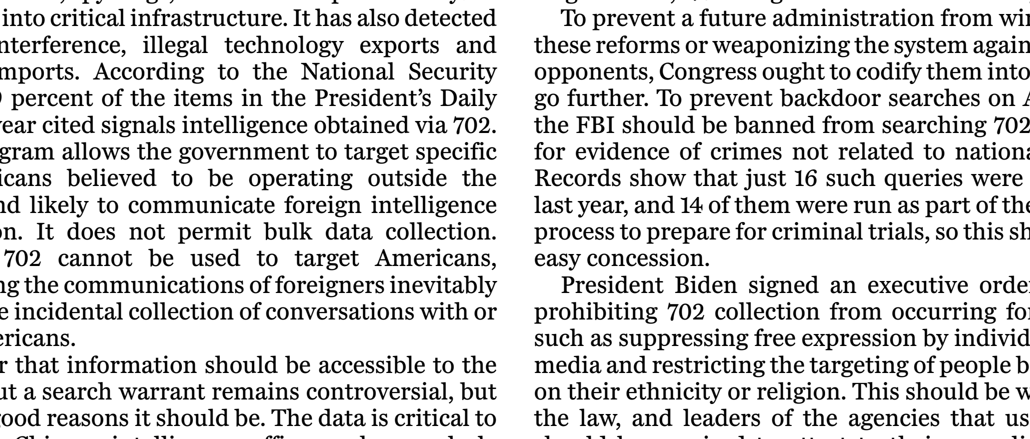
To prevent a future administration from winding back these reforms or weaponizing the system against political opponents, Congress ought to codify them into law — and go further. To prevent backdoor searches on Americans, the FBI should be banned from searching 702 databases for evidence of crimes not related to national security. Records show that just 16 such queries were conducted last year, and 14 of them were run as part of the discovery process to prepare for criminal trials, so this should be an easy concession.

President Biden signed an executive order last year prohibiting 702 collection from occurring for purposes such as suppressing free expression by individuals or the media and restricting the targeting of people based solely on their ethnicity or religion. This should be written into the law, and leaders of the agencies that use the data should be required to attest to their compliance every year.

While supporters point out that Section 702 is the most openly debated surveillance program in the world, it would nevertheless benefit from more transparency. The government could declassify the various reasons information is collected under 702 — for example, counternarcotics — and how often collection occurs under each. The NSA also owes the public at least a rough estimate of how much information is unintentionally picked up about Americans.

But requiring warrants for every new search of data that has already been legally collected is neither operationally feasible nor constitutionally necessary. Investigators might be searching 702 databases for a phone number or an email address to see whether someone is the victim of malign activity, such as hacking. There wouldn't be probable cause to get a warrant against the potential victim, but that doesn't mean the search violates that person's Fourth Amendment right to privacy or that it lacks a clear connection to national security.

Matt Olsen, head of the Justice Department's National Security Division, testified in June that reauthorizing 702 is "perhaps the single most consequential national security decision that this Congress will make." This is no exaggeration. Congress still has time to get it right.



REUTERS

The National Security Agency's headquarters in Fort Meade.

PIA GUERRA AND IAN BOOTHBY

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

letters@washpost.com

Welcome bugs, not 'skeeters'

Dana Milbank's Sept. 3 Sunday Opinion column, "We banished bugs from our lives. Now, it's coming back to bite us.," really struck a chord with me. His declaration is true that even a single yard with native plants can make a real difference to our local wildlife, and it doesn't have to be in the Virginia Piedmont.

When my family moved to our half-acre home in Alexandria nearly 20 years ago, it had almost all nonnative and invasive plants — and a lot of mosquitoes. We've engaged in steady and ongoing removal of these plants and installed a variety of natives attractive to local birds, bees, butterflies and other critters. We vowed to keep our yard as free of pest controls as possible.

With these efforts, our yard soon teemed with life. Mosquitoes became less of a problem, too. Some of our neighbors have installed natives as well. We're rewarded with — and astonished by — similar insect activity mentioned by Mr. Milbank, often up close and personal. We've gained a greater appreciation for and much less fear of these little creatures as we watch their cycles of life, and we are gratified that we're able to help them.

We're aging out of the place we love and will need to downsize to a smaller home next year, but we hope to re-create a more modest native garden, even in pots. Truly, the adage "If you build it they will come" applies to native plants and the wildlife that depends on them.

Kasha Helget, *Alexandria*

Dana Milbank's column advising us to not rake up the leaves in our yards was revelatory.

Mr. Milbank did not mention one highly effective option for mosquito control available to most everyone: bats. Bats eat prodigious amounts of insects that, if uneaten, will feast on us.

Ready-made bat houses are easy to find online, as are plans to build your own.

Help the bats — and tame the skeeters!

Doug McNeill, *Chesapeake, Va.*

We are living in a nightmare

Reading in the Sept. 6 front-page article "Antiabortion drive hits a roadblock" about the good people of Llano, Tex., who wish to protect their roads from the scourge of pregnant women who might be headed out of state for abortions, I was reminded that I am living in a nightmare, worthy of creation by Margaret Atwood. I'm in Gilead. The commanders wish to "protect" their handmaids. Someone wake me up.

Anne Headley, *Mitchellville*

Going along to get along

Regarding George F. Will's Sept. 3 op-ed, "Drew Gilpin Faust and 'necessary trouble' ":

I lived through the early 1950s but was a little too young to go protesting and making "necessary trouble," as did my older sisters and parents. My younger brother and I were left home alone the day my sisters and parents were arrested sitting in at the segregated Gwynn Oak Park in Baltimore. That was in the early 1960s, and there were still numerous public facilities that turned away Black people.

I was guilty of swimming at the segregated Milford Mill, a beautiful, large rock quarry that filled with beautiful, clear water. Though I had Black friends, I swam there numerous times, feeling guilty but too young and dumb to stand up to the injustice of it.

Getting along and going along. Perhaps that's why all these Americans go along with former president Donald Trump; all these folks see their neighbors with Trump signs, so they go along to get along, despite knowing what they do about Mr. Trump.

Thanks to Mr. Will for pointing out a great end-of-summer read by Drew Gilpin Faust, a woman who questioned, who made good and necessary trouble and, though a troublemaker, who went on to become president of Harvard University. It will be a pleasure to review that foreign country, the past.

Perhaps people all across this country could learn from her. Going along with the wrong people following the wrong leader gets you nowhere in life — except maybe prison or even dead.

Jon Temple, *Chevy Chase*

Floridians need help

Regarding the Sept. 5 front-page article "Big insurers cut disaster coverage over climate risk":

I have owned a large and valuable mixed-use commercial property in Fort Myers, Fla., for the past 10-plus years. My annual premium for hazard insurance — including for wind, hurricanes and sinkholes — has gradually risen from $7,500 to $14,000. This policy expired on Sept. 1. About 30 days ago, my carrier sent me a one-sentence notice that it would not be renewing my policy even though there is an open claim from Hurricane Ian. It offered me a new policy that excluded wind, hurricane and sinkhole coverage for $2,500 more than last year's policy, which included that coverage. After receiving the notice of nonrenewal, I asked two insurance agents to find a replacement policy that includes wind and hurricane coverage. After three weeks, only one company offered me a new wind and hurricane policy — with a premium of $175,000 annually. This policy, unlike any previous policy I had, capped payout at $1 million. My other policies were all based on the replacement value of the property.

This property insurance situation is not sustainable. Our elected leaders, from the president and governor on down, need to address with urgency this unfolding crisis.

Roger Hutchison, *Fort Myers, Fla.*

Stand up for Catholics

Regarding the Sept. 2 Metro article about the escalating attacks by the Nicaraguan government on the Catholic Church in recent years, "Alumni grieve after Nicaraguan government seizes Jesuit-run university":

Christian Solidarity Worldwide, a human rights organization, has monitored the Nicaraguan government's siege on religious freedom, including harassing and detaining religious leaders, arbitrarily canceling religious events, and stripping the legal status of many universities and nongovernmental organizations with a religious affiliation. Though the attacks on the Catholic Church are highly visible, other groups are also in Nicaraguan leader Daniel Ortega's sights. Over the past three years, CSW has documented hundreds of cases of religious freedom violations affecting a diverse spectrum of faith groups. Religious groups are an influential sector of independent civil society. It is no surprise that those who have not overtly allied themselves with Mr. Ortega have become his targets. His attempts to extinguish Catholicism in Nicaragua merit world condemnation on a much larger scale.

The United States has rightly maintained Nicaragua on its list of Countries of Particular Concern for religious freedom violations, and the European Union has been highly critical. The international community must raise its voice on behalf of all religious groups whose rights are being violated — before freedom of religion or belief is eradicated altogether.

Anna Lee Stangl, *Washington*
The writer is head of advocacy at Christian Solidarity Worldwide.

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EUGENE ROBINSON

McConnell is indispensable. It's a problem.

I can't believe I'm saying this, but the nation and the world should hope that Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell is able to keep doing his job. After him, I fear, might come the deluge.

On a human level, of course, everyone should wish the 81-year-old Kentucky Republican a speedy recovery from whatever has twice caused him to freeze — alarmingly — while speaking to reporters. Politically, though, I can't forget that he is the individual most responsible for the hard-right Supreme Court majority that revoked the constitutional right to abortion, gutted affirmative action and generally has tried to frog-march the country back to the 19th century.

Aside from his machinations in blocking and confirming Supreme Court nominees, McConnell also flubbed the GOP's best opportunity to rid itself of Donald Trump. He should have led Republicans in voting to convict Trump in his second impeachment trial, while the wounds from the Capitol insurrection were still fresh. His apparent view that the criminal justice system would end Trump's political career was tragically wrong.

But that was then, and this is now.

Trump is once again rampant, despite his four felony indictments, and has a massive lead in the race for the GOP presidential nomination. His grip on the party's base has made the House Republican caucus into a MAGA circus, with extremist performance artists such as Reps. Marjorie Taylor Greene (Ga.) and Jim Jordan (Ohio) now part of the mainstream.

House Speaker Kevin McCarthy (Calif.) has such a tiny majority that he is beholden to every faction, including the wackos. He is pulled in so many directions that the House basically goes nowhere — and does nothing but pass symbolic legislation that has nothing to do with reality and no chance to be approved by the Senate's Democratic majority.

But the nation cannot function without Congress. Given the House's dysfunction, the Senate must be the chamber that leads. And given the Senate's arcane rules, including the filibuster, Majority Leader Charles E. Schumer (D-N.Y.) needs McConnell's collaboration to get anything accomplished.

President Biden needs McConnell, too. Biden has often said he considers McConnell a friend, from their long years of service together in the Senate. But McConnell is also a fellow dinosaur in today's Washington: a transactional politician who makes deals and believes in his party's traditional values.

On Wednesday, McConnell spoke on the Senate floor in support of the Biden administration's urgent request for continued support of Ukraine in its war against Russian invaders. "Now, with Ukraine bravely defending its sovereignty and eroding Russia's capacity to threaten NATO, it is not the time to ease up," McConnell said. "Helping Ukraine retake its territory means weakening one of America's biggest strategic adversaries without firing a shot."

Such strong words will help McCarthy try to win support from House Republicans for the Biden administration's request for $40 billion in supplemental spending on aid to Ukraine, border security, and relief from domestic disasters such as hurricanes and wildfires. The isolationist, Trump-MAGA stance — not a penny more for Ukraine — might be gaining ground in the House, but McConnell drew a red line in front of the ornate Senate chamber doors: Don't bring that nonsense in here.

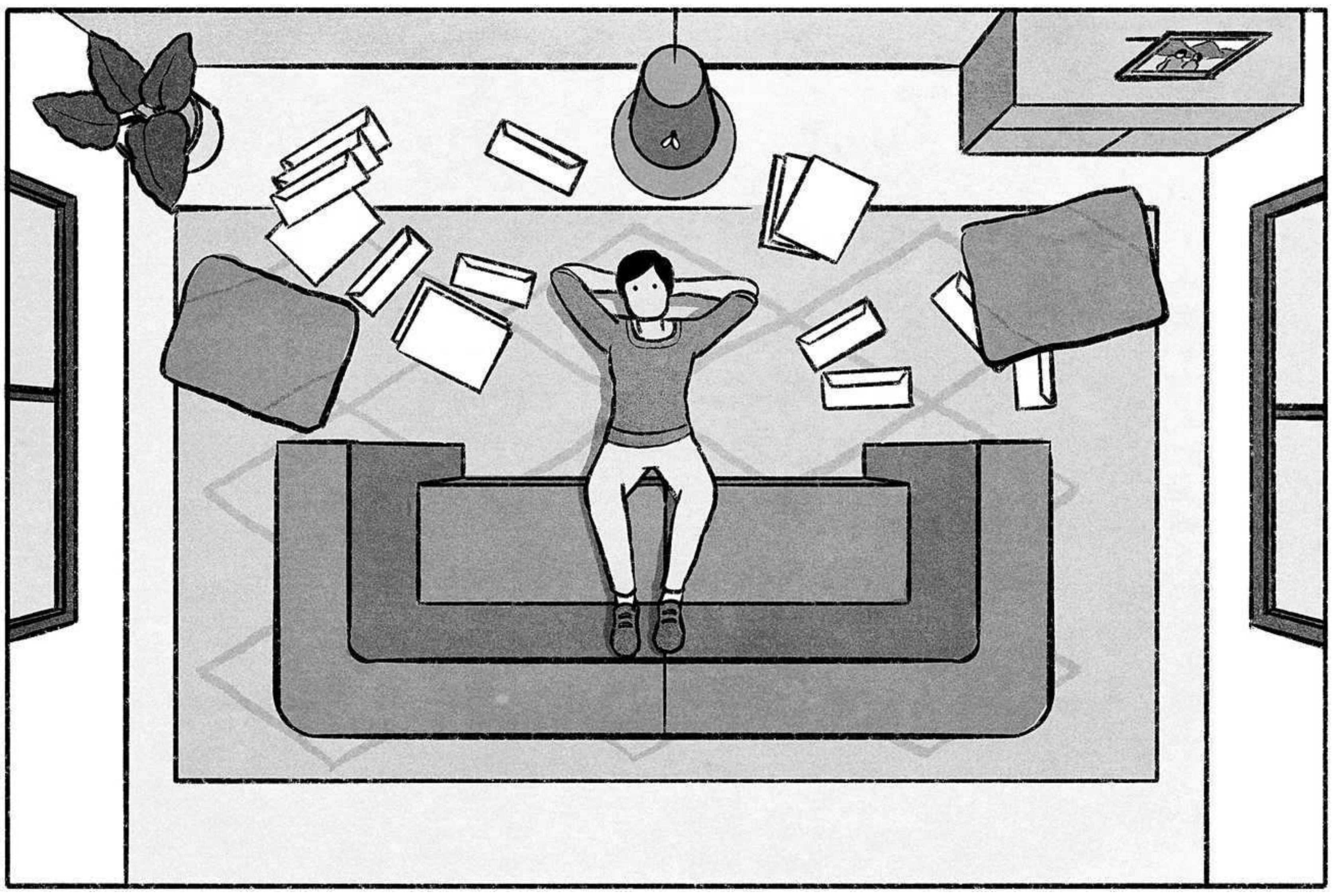
Meanwhile, as Congress struggles to pass appropriations bills and avoid a government shutdown when the fiscal year ends Sept. 30, the House Freedom Caucus is demanding that McCarthy renege on the spending deal that he made — and the House approved — during the debt ceiling negotiations.

Under McConnell's leadership, though, Senate Republicans have joined Democrats in keeping to the agreed-upon spending targets while making steady progress on funding the government. All 12 of the Senate appropriations bills have been passed by the relevant committees with bipartisan support.

None of this fixes the chaos in the House. But imagine how much worse things would be if the Senate were in similar hyperpartisan disarray. And imagine what the Senate might be like if McConnell, who has been the Republican leader since 2007, were not there to be the adult in the room.

McConnell has erred by not following the example set by another aging titan of the Capitol, Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.). When Democrats lost their majority last November, Pelosi stepped aside as speaker — having mentored Hakeem Jeffries (D-N.Y.) as her replacement as party leader in the House. McConnell, by contrast, has no designated successor. Instead, there are the "Three Johns" — Thune (S.D.), Cornyn (Tex.) and Barrasso (Wyo.) — any of whom could be the next GOP leader.

By refusing to plan an orderly transition, McConnell has avoided diluting his power. Given the parlous state of our democracy, he has made himself indispensable. But McConnell had a serious fall earlier this year, broke a rib, suffered a concussion and now has had two freezing episodes. I can't help but recall Charles de Gaulle's ghoulish observation: The graveyards are full of indispensable men.



KLAUS KREMMERZ FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

It took a pandemic to change the nature of my chronic procrastination

BY YIYUN LI

Here, I dare anyone to find a more dreamlike setting for signing legal papers than this one: It was a spring afternoon, perfectly cloudless, and the magnolias near my campus office bloomed fully, with an insouciance to the ice storm in the forecast. On an empty patio of a restaurant, the heating lamps were not yet packed away; the tables and the chairs, made of wrought iron, showed the first signs of rusting, which added a poetic, weathered feeling.

There, my husband and I met our lawyer, with two of my colleagues walking across the street to be our witnesses. The five of us, masked and spread far from one another, all agreed it felt as though it had been years since we had seen someone in real life. It was April 2020, and when we had arrived at the patio, I had sprayed every table and chair with bleach.

We were there to sign the papers for our living wills, after 15 years of procrastination.

Full confession: Before 2020, I was a mild to moderate, chronic and miserable procrastinator. Most of my appointments — medical, vision, car maintenance, tree-trimming, gutter-cleaning — tended to be overdue. And they were overdue precisely because before they were past due, I was acutely conscious of their looming due dates. I spent more time thinking about making the appointments than picking up the phone. In fact, I had a notebook in which I listed all the tasks that needed to be done. Then I listed them again. Then again. The lists only grew longer.

At the same time, I agonized over my tendency to procrastinate, until the agony was too sharp. Then I reconciled with my weakness. Then something reminded me of the unmet goals and the unchecked-off tasks, and I had to face my hopeless procrastination. I became anxious again.

You get the gist of the cycle.

The idea of a living will, along with life insurance, had been first put to me by a colleague in 2005. We both had young children then, mine in preschool, hers in kindergarten. She emphasized the importance of a living will and life insurance, which, she explained to me, were part of our parental responsibilities toward our children. "Look, I know you find it weird and depressing," she said. "But I can guarantee that you'll feel so much better when you get them done."

My husband and I investigated term life insurance. We did comparison shopping, contacted the underwriters, had our medicals done and signed our names on the dotted line. After that, we began to talk about finding an estate lawyer, which put me in a debilitating agony.

For a while, my husband would mention the task yet to be finished. Yes, I knew it was important, but the question of looking for the right guardians for my young children in case of both parents' deaths was always there to unleash my imagination. There was no complexity in the psychology of this procrastination. The hurdles were my fear and apprehension. After a while, the topic was dropped.

Fast-forward to 2020: Life, in those 15 years, had not been uneventful. We were older now, solidly middle-aged. We had lost one child, and the other had been in high school for less than half a year before being sent home, along with students around the nation, for virtual education.

There was a pandemic, with the accompanying soundtrack of sirens, with people retreating behind their doors if they could, with the news of people dying — friends' parents, then friends' friends. That spring, wild animals became bolder. Foxes and turkeys trotted down the empty streets of Princeton, N.J.; one day, some giant crows congregated on our front lawn.

This time, I experienced no apprehension. I wrote to our lawyer and made the earliest possible appointment to sign our living wills. Afterward, she congratulated us, which at first did not make sense. We did not win a lottery; we did not accomplish anything noteworthy; we only did something sensible, after 15 years of not being able to do it.

But three years later, I now think she was right to congratulate me, even if she was merely acting out of professional courtesy. For what has happened since that encounter — and this is no small thing — is that my relationship with procrastination has changed.

The word "procrastinate" derives from the Latin "pro" ("forward") plus "crastinus" ("belonging to tomorrow"). *There is always tomorrow!* it says. If this is true, I began to ask myself, can one find solace that, despite the agony that comes with the habit, a procrastinator is fundamentally an optimist — one who believes that when tomorrow comes, things can, and will, be done?

But tomorrow doesn't always come — not for some of our loved ones, not for some of our favorite places. Which complicates how one thinks about this, or at least how I do.

There is no tomorrow for the salon I used to go to, where I had an ongoing conversation about philosophy and religion with my hairdresser, an immigrant from Hong Kong with a master's degree in theology. It closed during the pandemic.

The last time I saw my Ukrainian massage therapist, in February 2020, she was about to submit paperwork on behalf of her adult son so they could reunite after 20 years of separation. Her business was shut down that spring — but worse, I fear, her reunion with her son will be indefinitely postponed, first by the pandemic, now by the war in Ukraine.

So much of life is beyond our control, a fact heavily underlined by the pandemic and the many forms of losses in the past few years. Sometimes, it is hard to be optimistic.

Why not, then, be kinder to oneself, accepting that one should not resort to self-punishment for things not in one's control, which, to me, include my character flaw of procrastination? These days, I am still a mild to moderate, chronic procrastinator — but somewhat less miserable. I know that at some point, things will get done, a few days late, a few weeks late. Even 15 years late. But when things remain undone, I refuse to chastise myself: There is nothing good in letting procrastination, which I have to reconcile to live with, come between me and myself, causing unnecessary conflict and tension.

Things don't *always* get done late these days. When I face a new task, I weigh my options: Will I suffer more from the pressure to tackle the task or from the guilt of procrastinating? If the former, I put off the task for now and stop thinking about it — there are more tasks in any case. If the latter, I do it right away, no space allowed for procrastination.

The pandemic has not taught me to break the habit. But it has taught me to be a better procrastinator: with more calculation and less pain.

Yiyun Li is the author of a memoir, "Dear Friend, From My Life I Write to You in Your Life," and numerous works of fiction, including the forthcoming story collection "Wednesday's Child."

DAVID IGNATIUS

Raimondo finds a China facing a reality check

China knows it's suffering a serious real estate crisis. It badly wants to placate unhappy Western companies and get more foreign investment. It fears it's falling behind America on artificial intelligence. It's nervous about its future and wants more communication with the United States.

That's a quick summary of the impressions Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo took away from her trip to Beijing and Shanghai last week. Her visit provided a snapshot of China at an inflection point, at which its leaders recognize they're facing significant economic problems but don't have any quick fixes.

As it faces these head winds, China has toned down its anti-Washington rhetoric, if not its global ambitions. "They want a relationship of greater communication," Raimondo told me Wednesday. Their message, she said, was: "We hear the concerns of U.S. business. What can we do to improve?"

Raimondo, the latest in a string of top U.S. officials to visit China this summer, met with Premier Li Qiang, Vice Premier He Lifeng and others. "People have said they're on a charm offensive to attract U.S. capital, and I would agree with that," she told me. She said she plans to follow up with regular contact with her Chinese counterparts to underline that "the happy talk needs to translate into change."

The Chinese government's usual bluster and defiance toward Washington appear to have been shaken by a sharp slowdown in economic growth, a collapsing real estate market and a fear that the Chinese tech sector is losing ground to the West. After hosting Raimondo in Shanghai, local Communist Party chief Chen Jining summed up the Chinese view this way: "The economic rebound is a bit lackluster. So stable bilateral ties in terms of trade and business is in the interest of two countries."

"The word 'Taiwan' did not come up once," Raimondo said. "They gave us very, very little rhetoric or lecturing."

Chinese officials, from the premier on down, admitted their current economic difficulties. "They acknowledged the real estate crisis. There was no pretending that wasn't happening," Raimondo told me. "They repeatedly said the U.S. is ahead of China in artificial intelligence" and conceded they "need to pick up [their] game in artificial intelligence."

China seems ready to begin a serious dialogue with the United States about developing guardrails for artificial intelligence, something that national security adviser Jake Sullivan and Secretary of State Antony Blinken discussed with their Chinese counterparts this year. "That's an area we should have our teams work on together," Raimondo said the vice premier told her.

Chinese leaders still seem uncertain about what macroeconomic policies will best address the malaise. Raimondo said that despite the recent hemorrhaging of real estate debt, Chinese officials don't think the central government itself is overleveraged, and they say they don't fear contagion will spread to other sectors.

But President Xi Jinping's government is resisting the kind of consumer stimulus that the United States has often used to combat slow growth. One Chinese told Raimondo that Xi fears "consumer fiscal stimulus might make people weak."

Raimondo traveled to China with a basketful of complaints from U.S. companies. As she told reporters during her trip, U.S. executives warned her before leaving that "China is un-investible because it's become too risky."

The commerce secretary expanded on the wariness of U.S. investors. She told me U.S. companies had grown accustomed to "garden variety" problems of operating in China, including the "ripping off of our IP," "requiring joint ventures when we do business there" and "subsidization of state-owned companies." But U.S. executives balked at additional Chinese harassment over the past year, including "extreme data-localization," "raids on businesses" and arbitrary "counterespionage" measures to control documents.

"A lot of CEOs said to me, 'I'd like to invest more, but my board won't let me. . . . The board says it's too risky,' " Raimondo explained. The corporate fear about China, she said, was that "anything can happen to your company in the name of national security" in a way that is "totally arbitrary." That's one reason foreign direct investment in China has dropped during this year's second quarter to its lowest level in 25 years.

China now needs the United States and other Western economies it had disdained after the 2008 financial crash, when Beijing spoke of a West in permanent decline. Premier Wen Jiabao lectured the audience at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, in January 2009 about the West's "unsustainable model of development characterized by prolonged low savings and high consumption."

Raimondo heard a very different Chinese voice last week. Today's officials are chastened, perhaps even a bit scared, by their economic difficulties. Xi's "China Dream" is still alive — and potentially threatening to the West. But as Raimondo saw last week, Beijing has experienced a reality check.

It makes me proud because we’re doing the right things for people.

Scott R.
Consumer Banking Performance Manager,
Better Money Habits® Volunteer Champion

Horsham, PA

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The Washington Post

METRO

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2023 EZ RE **B**

8 a.m.	Noon	4 p.m.	8 p.m.	High today at approx. 3 p.m.
77°	88°	92°	81°	94° Precip: 85% Wind: SSE 6-12 mph

MARYLAND
After a brawl, Montgomery County schools institute a backpack ban and an ID requirement at games. **B4**

THE REGION
This week's heat wave has been the most intense on record this late in the year in the Washington area. **B6**

OBITUARIES
William R. MacKaye, 89, covered religion for The Post and was an editor for the paper's magazine. **B5**

Youngkin outlines plan to boost scores

VA. STEPS INCLUDE 'INTENSIVE' TUTORING

Students still struggling to recover in reading, math

BY KARINA ELWOOD

RICHMOND — Virginia Gov. Glenn Youngkin (R) on Thursday announced steps — including an "intensive" tutoring program — to help improve academic performance as newly- released test scores showed students are still struggling to recover in reading and math after pandemic school closures.

The plan also includes expanding the Virginia Literacy Act to hire and train reading specialists for grades four through eight, and launching a task force focused on reducing chronic absenteeism.

Results from the state's Standards of Learning, or SOLs, released Thursday showed that about 73 percent of students statewide passed the reading exam and 69 percent of students statewide passed the math exam. This year's scores remain consistent with last year's performance where 73 percent of students passed the reading SOLs and 66 percent passed the math tests.

"That learning loss is incredibly hard to recover," Youngkin said at a news conference in Richmond. "Our youngest students, the third-through-eighth-graders, who never had the opportunity to truly learn the foundations, those building blocks for the rest of life — they do not rebound at the flip of a switch."

The yearly examinations assess students in subjects like reading, math, history, writing and science. Local school districts and state officials use the tests to determine school accreditation, gauge teachers' effectiveness and assess students' academic progress.

In the announcement Thursday, education officials also focused on chronic absenteeism, which is defined as missing at least 18 days in a school year. The data showed that students who were chronically absent scored 18 percent lower in reading and 25 percent lower in math than

SEE **YOUNGKIN** ON **B3**

Covid spikes in region's schools

Officials revive masking mandates in classrooms, track potential outbreaks

BY NICOLE ASBURY AND KARINA ELWOOD

Across the D.C. region, students are witnessing a rise in coronavirus cases just as they head back into the classroom.

Overall, it's hard to tell exactly how widespread cases are in the classroom. Many school districts aren't maintaining centralized covid-19 data dashboards online since a public health emergency order ceased. And fewer people are testing for the coronavirus, because free test kits aren't as widely accessible as they used to be.

But in communities and on social media, parents are talking frequently about a surge in cases, and schools are taking action. Several schools in Montgomery County have reintroduced mandatory masking for specific classes with outbreaks. This week, political and media figures on the right attacked Rosemary Hills Elementary School in Silver Spring, which told kindergartners to wear face coverings for several days. Sen. Josh Hawley (R-Mo.) posted "Never again" on X, formerly known as Twitter, in response to the news. (The school held recess indoors and added extra security after the online backlash.)

This year represents a new

SEE **COVID** ON **B3**

Celebrating the diversity of a community

MICHAEL S. WILLIAMSON/THE WASHINGTON POST

Mark Vigo is lifted up just after commencement ceremonies ended at Gaithersburg High School in Maryland on June 13. Gaithersburg is said to be the most diverse community in the nation. See more images by photojournalist Michael S. Williamson from the Washington Post photography department's "A Capital Summer" series on B2.

Getting to college takes people caring about you

Petula Dvorak

He's moved into his dorm now, his classes are set and he went to a board game night.

The verdant campus of Frostburg State University is everything he'd dreamed it would be. Only days earlier, Kamari Felton believed that dream was dead after a last-minute call from the school saying his financial aid didn't go through. He had already packed his bags and cleaned out the room in a shelter that had been his home for nearly a year.

Sorry. Adults shuffling papers and checking boxes shrugged.

We published a column last week about the absurd circle the 22-year-old was whirlpooling in. He was told by a Maryland bureaucracy that he wouldn't get aid because he was living in D.C. Then D.C. told him he wouldn't get aid from the city because he didn't have proof of residency for three of his years as a teenager.

The money — set aside in thoughtful programs created by universities and governments to help unhoused and largely unsupported students like Felton — was there. The programs were in place.

This was 100 percent human error. Calling attention to that got it fixed — within hours.

The day after Felton's story went online, the school's vice president for student affairs drove his black Chevy SUV to the front door of the shelter that had been Felton's home this year. He helped the student heft his suitcases into the car and drove him to campus, three hours away.

"We felt horrible about the way it happened," Artie Lee Travis told me, taking one of the bags from Felton.

Hoorah for Travis for stepping up. Congrats to D.C. for finally approving Felton's aid package. (And a huge thank you to all the readers who swelled a GoFundMe set up by Washington Post reader Leslie McDunn to more than $40,000. And to Leah Gage, the Playtime Project intern who met Felton years ago and helped him pick a college.)

But it shouldn't take a column to do what could've been done all along. And now we have to ask how many students like Felton are falling through the holes of thoughtfully constructed safety nets.

"Most youth don't have the support of advocates and might not even be aware of the help

SEE **DVORAK** ON **B4**

CRAIG HUDSON FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Upgrades to Amtrak's Ivy City maintenance facility in D.C. are expected to begin next summer and wrap up in 2029, in time for the arrival of new dual-powered Airo trains on Northeast Corridor routes.

Amtrak rail yards to get $1B overhaul

BY LUZ LAZO

In a 51-acre complex two miles from Union Station, yellow-vested workers are maintaining the rail cars that whisk passengers up and down the busy Northeast Corridor.

Among the Amtrak rail yard's buzz of activity, workers make routine inspections, remove flat spots from wheels and repair the damage that trains sustain from tree branches and debris.

But the decades-old facility in Northeast Washington is so outdated, officials say, that some tasks are taking longer to complete. Rail cars in train sets can't be serviced simultaneously because outdated infrastructure requires cars to be pulled apart for repairs. Some track cleaning is done without canopies, exposing workers to heat, rain or snow. Heavy machinery used in some of the biggest repair jobs is in short supply, creating long backups in the maintenance pipeline.

SEE **AMTRAK** ON **B4**

Issue with cuffs led to escape at hospital

BY PETER HERMANN AND EMILY DAVIES

A murder suspect escaped from George Washington University Hospital on Wednesday because D.C. police officers did not secure one of his arms to a gurney as they changed his handcuffs in the emergency room, acting D.C. police chief Pamela A. Smith said.

The suspect, 30-year-old Christopher Patrick Haynes, ran away during the handcuff change, prompting authorities to order students and staff members at the university in Northwest Washington's Foggy Bottom neighborhood to shelter in place while they conducted a massive manhunt. D.C. police policies say that when a suspect is in custody at a hospital, officers "shall ensure that at least one arm or leg is secured to a fixed object at all times."

At a news conference Thursday, police said they were still searching for Haynes, who they believed might have a handcuff still dangling from his arm, as they offered new details about how he was able to elude police.

"He got out of the room because one of the officers removed one of the handcuffs from the suspect," Smith said. "The suspect was not secured, from my understanding, secured to the gurney."

Smith declined to comment on whether the officers violated procedures or rules, saying that will be a determination made by the Internal Affairs Bureau after an investigation concludes.

"I don't want to make assumptions or assertions prior to that investigation being concluded,"

SEE **SUSPECT** ON **B3**

A CAPITAL SUMMER

People wait for the start of commencement ceremonies at Gaithersburg High School on June 13.

Yousra Tapsoba, 3, waits for a balloon animal at the Eid al-Adha festival at the Islamic Center of Maryland in Gaithersburg on July 1.

Children attending a Gaithersburg Fourth of July parade hope to score some candy that is tossed by participants from the rocket-themed float representing the Lake Marion Lasers, a local youth swim team.

The bowler for the Germantown FireHawks winds up to hurl the ball at a batsman from the Gaithersburg Cryptos cricket team on July 15.

Ben Pope reaches for the ball during a pickleball game with teammate Andrea Glaser on July 7.

A melting pot in Maryland

PHOTOGRAPHY BY MICHAEL S. WILLIAMSON
TEXT BY MICHAEL E. RUANE

The photo of Yousra Tapsoba, age 3, is a study in beauty. Her dark brown eyes and light brown skin are set off by multicolored face paint, and her pink headscarf.

Her family is from Burkina Faso, a landlocked country in West Africa that has been plagued by political and social upheaval and food insecurity.

But Yousra lives in Maryland. And when Washington Post photojournalist Michael S. Williamson spotted her, she was waiting for a balloon twister making balloon animals at a festival at the Islamic center in Gaithersburg.

"As a photographer, it's always good when you see a face that just hits you," he said. "You don't have to study it. … I have a 6-year-old, so I know what a cute little kid can look like."

"She just started looking around," he said. Then she looked right at him.

"She caught me. It was a split second. … I knocked off a frame, and she went right back to normal. I don't think we ever made eye contact again."

Yousra is part of the great melting pot of Gaithersburg, which is said to be the most diverse community in the United States.

To wander the area, where Williamson lives, is to see a game of cricket, a joyous high school graduate whose parents came from Peru, and two women from Morocco taking pictures of a display of American flags.

Va. education plan targets absenteeism

YOUNGKIN FROM **B1**

students with regular attendance. The Virginia Department of Education said the number of chronically absent students doubled in 2022-2023 compared with the 2018-2019 school year.

"The impact of that on a student's ability to achieve is not too hard to understand. You're not in the classroom. You're not going to learn it," Youngkin said.

Education officials again blamed the stagnant results on previous administrations and school closures during the pandemic. Youngkin made a similar argument last year when test scores began to show signs of recovery but were still far from prepandemic levels. At the time, he pledged to address disparities in performance, but this year's results show little progress.

"For the second year in a row, rather than take accountability for his administration's failures, Governor Youngkin continues to blame languishing SOL scores on anyone but himself," Virginia Education Association President James J. Fedderman said in a statement. "The governor came into office promising to transform public education, but after two years all he has to show is a string of bungled proposals, administrative scandals, a proposed budget with cuts to K-12 spending in the second year, and stagnating test results."

The governor's approach, coined the "ALL IN VA" plan, outlined a three-step approach that will use $418 million for learning loss recovery approved in the budget by the Virginia General Assembly this week. The plan recommends school districts allocate 70 percent of the funding for "high-dose" tutoring, 20 percent to expand the Virginia Literacy Act and 10 percent for chronic absenteeism response.

In the "high-dosage" tutoring plan, students will receive three to five hours of aid per week, according to a press release about the plan. Students who achieved a "low proficient" score on their 2023 SOL will receive that tutoring for 18 weeks. And students who were not proficient will receive tutoring for up to 36 weeks. Youngkin challenged school districts to launch their tutoring programs by Oct. 16.

Many school districts around the country have invested in opt-in online tutoring programs for pandemic recovery, but experts say the "high-impact" form, while more difficult to organize and fund, has a much higher impact on students who need the most help.

VEA, the state's teacher union, further criticized the governor's plan, saying it is exceptionally difficult to find staff for intensive tutoring and reading instruction.

CRAIG HUDSON FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Virginia Gov. Glenn Youngkin (R) on Sept. 1. He said this week that learning loss from the pandemic "is incredibly hard to recover."

The release of the test results on Thursday comes after a weeks-long delay. It marks the first time the results have been announced in September since the early 2000s.

In a memo sent to school districts in May, Virginia Superintendent of Public Instruction Lisa Coons had targeted Aug. 17 to release the results. Then, in a newsletter sent Aug. 17, the department said that it would not yet share the annual pass rates. The Richmond Times-Dispatch reported on preliminary data that was posted and then taken down by Richmond Public Schools.

Virginia Department of Education Chief of Staff Jeremy Raley said in an email Thursday evening that the department released the scores after all school divisions had a chance to review their respective data, ensure its accuracy and complete all appeals.

When asked at the news conference why the governor waited to launch his "playbook" for recovery until this year, Youngkin said he didn't know the pandemic would have this lasting effect.

"Now we're seeing that, in fact, the impact of schools being shut is far, far more persistent than we could have imagined," he said.

"We're two years into his term; the buck stops with the governor, right?" said Del. Schuyler T. VanValkenburg (D-Henrico), a public school teacher. VanValkenburg noted that Youngkin's budget proposal funded reading specialists only through elementary school — something the House and Senate extended through middle school in the budget adopted Wednesday.

"If they weren't so busy tilting at culture war windmills all the time and they were focused on actual governance, we would have made some progress on this issue," he said. "They spent a year of Department of Education manpower trying to write right-wing, ideological history standards and dropping the ball on a lot of other things."

The results this year continue to show socio-economic performance gaps. Black and Hispanic students showed slight growth but continued to pass their tests at lower rates than their White peers. About 53 percent of Black students and 56 percent of Hispanic students passed the math assessment, while 59 percent of Black students and 58 percent of Hispanic students passed reading.

In Northern Virginia, Fairfax County Public Schools put out a news release stating that scores had remained steady from the year before and would be used as a baseline to measure growth over the next seven years.

Alexandria City Public Schools said in a news release that the school district saw slight increases in math, science, writing and history and a consistent pass rate in reading, compared with last year.

"We are pleased to see that our SOL pass rates are moving in the right direction in ACPS, especially with increases in Math and Science, two areas that were highly impacted by the pandemic and have been a priority in our learning recovery initiatives," said Schools Superintendent Melanie Kay-Wyatt. "We know there is still much work to be done as we continue to implement best instructional practices as we accelerate learning and focus on our students' social, emotional and academic learning."

Loudoun County Public Schools had among the highest pass rates in Northern Virginia, with 80 percent of students passing the reading tests and 76 percent passing math. Arlington County similarly had 78 percent of students pass both.

"While we still have work to do on behalf of our students and families, we have a lot to be proud of in LCPS," Loudoun County Public Schools Superintendent Aaron Spence said in a release.

Laura Vozzella contributed to this report.

Local schools' coronavirus cases rise

COVID FROM **B1**

chapter for many school districts — the first full school year since President Biden ended the health order in May. Now schools are primarily monitoring for clusters and influxes in cases, rather than placing an emphasis on tracking and reporting individual ones, like in previous school years.

The rise in cases probably stems from August travel and the gathering of students in schools again, said Xiaoyan Song, chief infection control officer at Children's National Hospital. The spike, she said, has been consistent with what she has seen at this time in previous years.

"Labor Day weekend always sort of fetters off to something," Song said. "So we are seeing a spike increase, but hopefully it's just that, you know, due to all the social factors more than the virus, but we need a few more weeks to see where this trend is heading to."

So far, school officials say known cases remain lower compared with surges experienced after winter and spring breaks in the 2022-2023 school year.

In Virginia, Fairfax County Public Schools — the state's largest school district with more than 180,000 students — said there were 14 reported outbreaks, which is defined as three or more cases in a group, from Aug. 18 through Sept. 4. Schools spokeswoman Julie Moult said in an email that the school district reports outbreaks to the county health department.

Alexandria City Public Schools — which has about 16,000 students — has only had two clusters of cases this year, one among staff before classes started, and one small cluster in an elementary school, Director of School Health Services Robin Wallin said.

The Alexandria school system has rolled in its covid protocols with mitigation for other spreadable diseases, like the flu, this year, Wallin said. The district is monitoring absenteeism levels along with cases tracked by school nurses for any outbreaks. She said absenteeism levels have not yet spiked.

"Many of our schools have experienced isolated cases, but we're just trying to treat it like we do other communicable diseases," Wallin said.

In nearby Arlington County, spokesman Frank Bellavia said the school district is not tracking cases this year, but it will be monitoring for an influx of cases and will provide notice of an outbreak as it would for other communicable diseases.

Loudoun County Public Schools in Virginia did not respond to questions.

An educator in Virginia said teachers around the state were closely watching absenteeism rates. The educator, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because they were not cleared by their school district to speak to the media, said more students and teachers are donning masks again in the classroom. But since the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that students stay home for five days if they test positive, the time lost from the classroom is their biggest concern.

"It becomes an issue of equity. What home or out-of-school supports does that learner have access to? That range is just so broad," the educator said. "It's critical. Five days of learning is really hard to recover from, especially when those days are consecutive."

D.C. Public Schools hasn't started analyzing case trends since the school year started last week, a spokesperson for the school system said, but thus far, there hasn't been an uptick in cases.

For the week of Aug. 21, the school system reported one known positive case at Watkins Elementary School. Before the 2022-2023 school year ended, the school system reported 71 cases among students and staff throughout May. Between June 1 and June 23, there were 16 confirmed cases in the school district. On the website the school district uses to update families on the spread of the coronavirus, most of the guidance hasn't been updated from the 2022-2023 school year.

In Maryland, Montgomery County Public Schools, the state's largest school district with about 160,000 students, reported Wednesday that nine out of 211 schools had experienced an outbreak since Sept. 1.

The increase in cases was expected, since there's always "a proliferation of viruses" in the summer, said Patricia Kapunan, medical officer for Montgomery County Public Schools.

"We entered the school year in what I've been calling sort of like a modest increase of summer cases," Kapunan said.

Last school year, the Montgomery school system reached a peak around Sept. 20, when 20 schools were affected by an outbreak within a single week. There was another "sustained increase" in cases between Thanksgiving and until about mid-February, Kapunan said. During that window, the wave reached a peak in late January when 25 schools were managing an outbreak at the same time.

At Burning Tree and Rosemary Hills elementary schools in Montgomery County, principals sent notes home Tuesday notifying parents of outbreaks and mask mandates. A kindergarten class at Rosemary Hills was required to mask until Monday, after there were four confirmed cases in the classroom, Kapunan said. The decision quickly got pushback from conservative parents and commentators — some of whom didn't have children at the school — on social media.

Lindsey Smith, chair of the Montgomery County chapter of Moms for Liberty, said she received emails and comments on social media from more than 100 parents who were opposed to any masking requirement after the Rosemary Hills letter circulated online. Some of the parents accused the school system of requiring masking as part of a political move, she said: "Parents are just done."

Public health officials have said masking is one of the most effective ways to curb the spread of respiratory illnesses. Kapunan said that since the children were kindergartners, none of them were enrolled in school when universal masking was required. "And, you know, one of the things I think we have to consider is the masks are not effective unless kids can safely and efficiently wear them," she added.

The school system doesn't require masks in classrooms with students in prekindergarten or who have a disability, since those learners often don't safely and consistently mask, Kapunan said. The district relies on other mitigation strategies, such as physical distancing.

"We ask them to do the best they can, and we also do things like wash hands and cough in our sleeves," Kapunan said.

Prince George's County Public Schools — a Maryland district with about 131,00 students — has had 121 cases since school staff returned Aug. 21, school spokeswoman Meghan Gebreselassie said, but there have been no operational impacts so far. The school system hasn't updated its coronavirus reporting dashboard since May 15.

Song said parents and educators should continue to rely on proven mitigation strategies — like vaccinations, masking and hand-washing — to protect against the coronavirus and other diseases as the school year continues.

"Stay calm. This is a virus that we know has been going around for three years, and we don't see any time it's going to leave," Song said. "So we just need to be smart and hold on to the strategies that have been working great."

Hunt still on after D.C. hospital escape

SUSPECT FROM **B1**

Smith said.

Haynes had been charged in connection with the Aug. 12 shooting of 33-year-old Brent Hayward, and deputies with the U.S. Marshals Service Capital Area Regional Fugitive Task Force took him into custody Wednesday morning in Manassas on a warrant out of D.C. Superior Court, authorities said.

Robert Dixon, the U.S. marshal for D.C. Superior Court, said Haynes was arrested without incident and did not complain of being hurt. "There was nothing wrong with him when we turned him over to" D.C. police, Dixon said. "He did not complain to us."

Smith said that later Thursday afternoon, while being processed by D.C. police, Haynes complained of a preexisting ankle injury. She said one D.C. police officer took him to the hospital.

The D.C. police department's general orders say that transportation of a prisoner to a hospital "shall be conducted by two members, unless exigent circumstances exist," and that "security-risk prisoners shall always be transported by two members."

At the hospital, Smith said, a second D.C. police officer arrived to assist with Haynes. The chief said Haynes "physically assaulted" one officer while police were attempting to secure him to the hospital bed and then fled. Both officers pursued Haynes, according to Smith, but he got away.

Federal and local officers with long guns searched the Foggy Bottom and Georgetown areas for hours, shutting down streets and a bridge into Virginia while a helicopter scanned from the skies. Students at George Washington University were plunged into lockdown, as an alert blasted to their phones about the suspect on the loose.

Arielle Geismar, 22, the student body president, had just given a presentation in class on how drones gather intelligence when she noticed other students shifting in their seats, looking at one another and whispering about the alert from university officials.

She raised her hand and told the professor something was going on on campus. Students pulled down the blinds, locked the classroom door, texted friends and family, and checked social media to try to figure out what was happening.

Geismar said they didn't know whether there was an active shooter. "Our generation — we're the lockdown generation," Geismar said. "So it was an incredibly scary situation to be in."

Smith said the thorough search led police to conclude Haynes had left the area. Campus officials, who had described Smith as potentially dangerous, lifted the shelter-in-place order after 8 p.m.

Smith said Haynes, who lived in Gainesville, Va., is known to frequent several locations in D.C. and has ties to Prince William, Stafford and Fauquier counties in Virginia.

Police said he fatally shot Hayward in the 1500 block of Kenilworth Avenue NE in August. Smith said police have notified members of Hayward's family and another man who was injured in the August shooting about Haynes being at large. Efforts to reach Hayward's relatives were not successful on Thursday.

Police said in an arrest warrant made public Thursday that Hayward was found shot in the head outside a convenience store and that investigators also found a firearm on him. Police alleged that a dispute and a physical altercation preceded the shooting.

Police on Thursday updated their description of Haynes. He is Black with shoulder-length dreadlocks and has a Washington Nationals tattoo on his neck, they said.

Smith said he was wearing a black T-shirt, gray shorts and one red shoe. On Wednesday night, police said he had black handcuffs hanging from his right wrist.

According to InsideNoVa, Haynes has been on the run before. In 2020, the website reported that Haynes was accused of trying to run over police officers with a vehicle in Manassas and then fleeing. The outcome of that case was not immediately clear.

Authorities are offering a reward of up to $25,000 for information that leads to Haynes's arrest, authorities said Thursday.

Susan Svrluga contributed to this report.

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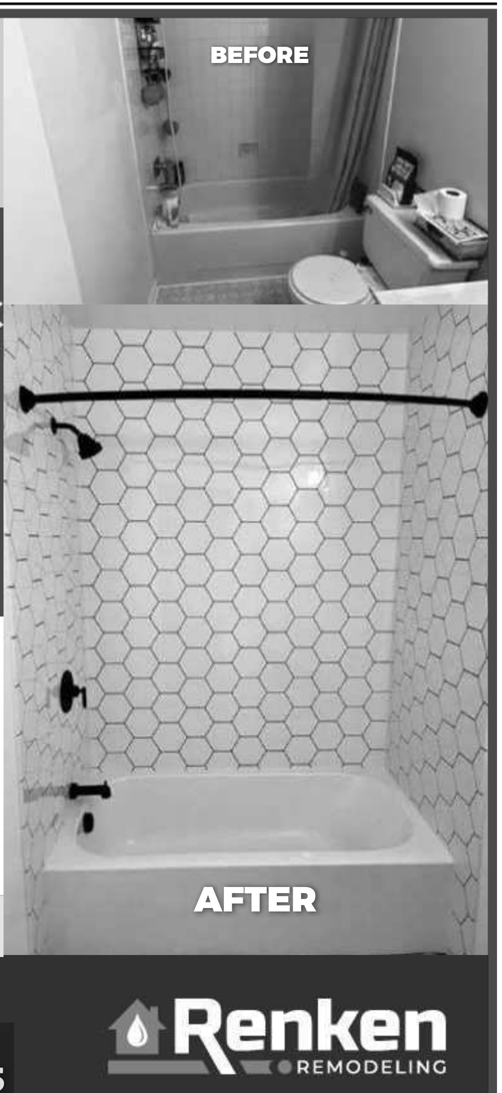

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The Washington Post

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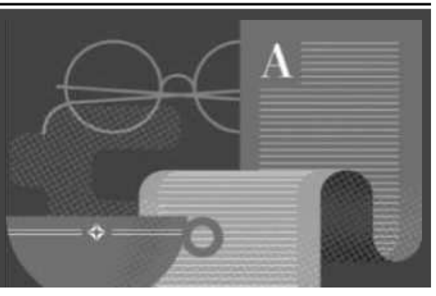


Modernization of Amtrak repair shops is part of railroad's national expansion

AMTRAK FROM **B1**

Armed with billions of dollars in federal infrastructure money, Amtrak says it is fast-tracking a plan to expand and modernize the D.C. site and five other maintenance facilities that serve hubs in the Northeast and the Pacific Northwest. The $1 billion in work will be done over five years in what would be the first overhaul of Amtrak's repair shops in its 52-year history — the latest round of work tied to the railroad's plans for a national expansion.

"We have some money to actually invest in some old infrastructure and to be able to bring our maintenance facilities into being world-class operations," said Norman Forde, Amtrak's vice president of project delivery fleet and facilities.

The renovations to prepare for a future with more modern trains are planned at maintenance yards in D.C., Philadelphia, New York, Boston, Seattle and Rensselaer, N.Y., followed by upgrades at 15 smaller facilities where trains are often cleaned, serviced or stored. Overall, Amtrak plans to spend $2 billion on the program.

The upgrades are part of a rail improvement program using funding from the federal infrastructure law, which allocated $66 billion for rail. The work will streamline maintenance, cleaning and repair practices at facilities that have not had significant renovations in decades — some that Amtrak inherited when Congress created it more than 50 years ago.

Forde said the goal is to elevate mechanical, service and cleaning shops to standards used in newer facilities at peer agencies in Europe while improving service reliability and supporting projected ridership growth.

The work will prepare rail yards for new train sets and locomotives expected to begin entering service this decade, including a new Acela fleet and Airo train sets that will replace nearly 40 percent of Amtrak's rail cars by 2031.

CRAIG HUDSON/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Train wheels are stored last month at Amtrak's Ivy City maintenance yard. The railroad is expanding and modernizing the D.C. site and five others that serve hubs in the Northeast and Pacific Northwest, the first overhauls of its repair shops in five decades.

Amtrak plans to retire its legacy Acela fleet next year using 28 high-speed train sets from French manufacturer Alstom. Those trains are part of a $2.5 billion project that also includes facility improvements in recent years.

Amtrak is buying 83 multi-powered Airo trains from Siemens Mobility to replace some of the carrier's 50-year-old rail cars. The Airo trains, which are being manufactured in California, will carry passengers in 2026 in the Pacific Northwest. They eventually will operate in the Northeast Corridor, on Amtrak's Palmetto route along the East Coast and along several state-supported routes.

Amtrak also has plans to replace decades-old rail cars that service its long-distance routes.

Laura Mason, Amtrak's executive vice president for capital delivery, said the modifications at rail yards will "ensure a seamless transition from Amtrak's aging fleet to modern, state-of-the-art equipment."

In D.C., Amtrak is seeking a contractor to upgrade its Ivy City rail yard, where Northeast Regional and Acela trains get routine inspections and repairs. The yard also serves MARC commuter trains. Amtrak estimates the total cost will be $350 million, including the contractor's portion of work and other expenses associated with the project.

The work will include the demolition of some structures, track relocation and converting storage areas into service tracks. Structures built in the mid-1980s will be rebuilt with raised roofs to allow for more overhead space for machinery, the addition of a catenary system and space to safely allow workers underneath, inside and atop trains.

Fuel stations will be added for the new Airo trains, which will be built with dual-power engines — electric and diesel. Officials say that will help reduce the amount of time it takes for trains to transition from electrified service in the Northeast Corridor into non-electrified territory south of Washington.

DJ Stadtler, executive director of the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority, which is overseeing the state's plan to double intercity Amtrak trains within the decade, said the facility upgrades are critical for maintenance of the future fleet and reducing the time trains spend at maintenance yards.

"If you can get trains out on the track again, that's better for everybody. I think that's money well spent," he said. "A little automation and innovation is also good for everybody."

Amtrak officials said new trains' remote monitoring tools and upgraded facilities will better integrate a digital diagnostics system for earlier detection of problems.

"The maintenance shop will actually be able to see what work needs to be done before the train even gets back" to the shop, Forde said. "We know we don't want to just fix something when it breaks. [We] want to be able to predict when it may fail and change out that part before the failure actually occurs."

Amtrak expects work at the Ivy City yard to begin next summer and be completed in 2029, in time for the arrival of the Airo trains in the Northeast. Construction elsewhere is scheduled to start later this year at Penn Coach Yard in Philadelphia, and would be complete in 2030 when works wraps up in Rensselaer, N.Y. Amtrak said normal operations will continue through the construction period.

Among the 15 smaller sites that will be renovated are four in Virginia, including in Norfolk, Newport News, Roanoke and Richmond.

PETULA DVORAK

Homeless students have safety nets, but those don't work if adults are apathetic

DVORAK FROM **B1**

that is available to them — or how to challenge rules where there may be loopholes," said Barbara Duffield, executive director of SchoolHouse Connection, a nonprofit in D.C. that focuses on education for kids experiencing homelessness.

The problem is that "administrators don't know the rules or aren't following them," said Duffield, who regularly fields questions from homeless youths on financial aid issues. "I imagine that for every email we receive, there must be 100 we don't receive."

Social programs don't mean squat if the recipients can't get to the help.

"A huge part of making this work is human contact," said Joshua Burris, 30. "Meaningful, human contact."

Burris speaks with authority.

He spent almost a decade living in his car, bouncing between shelters and bad situations — with some time in the Navy — before getting to Howard University, where he is now a junior majoring in political science and studying for his LSAT.

Like Felton, Burris was an honor roll student with big dreams in high school. But when he was a teen in Prince George's County, he said, his family rejected him because he told them he was gay. That led to life on the streets, the military, then shelter living and a downward spiral.

He found that case managers, program administrators and clerks largely moved him along with box-checking and paper-pushing when he tried to get help.

JAHI CHIKWENDIU/THE WASHINGTON POST

PETULA DVORAK/THE WASHINGTON POST

LEFT: D.C. General, a troubled homeless shelter that Kamari Felton and his family started staying at in 2015, closed in 2018. ABOVE: Artie Lee Travis, vice president for student affairs at Frostburg State University, helps Felton with his bags. He drove to D.C. to pick up Felton and drive him to the school in Maryland.

"When I got my housing voucher, I could see the people there were overworked," he said. "Housing vouchers aren't going to solve all the problems that made people homeless. I saw multiple, multiple people die in their apartments after they got vouchers. They were in those apartments alone … no one to care about them."

Felton's experiences — common to homeless youths in the DMV — plunged him through the cracks. The Maryland native had been living in-state when he applied to school, but he shifted back to a D.C. shelter 10 months ago after spending many years as a high school student in the District.

When he tried to go through a D.C. program for help, he needed records he could not produce from a time he'd been living in D.C. General's massive family shelter. An administrator suggested Felton ask his mom for her tax returns to show proof of residency.

Again, anyone taking a closer look at his application would see that it's unlikely an unemployed woman — Felton told me he hasn't seen her in five years — would be able to produce three years of tax forms.

While the McKinney-Vento Act — passed in 1987 and signed into law by President Ronald Reagan — requires states and K-12 schools to tackle barriers to learning faced by students experiencing homelessness, Duffield said, there's no equivalent for college — yet.

The bipartisan Higher Education Access and Success for Homeless and Foster Youth Act of 2022 is still waiting for congressional action and would mandate colleges to have liaisons for students like Felton and Burris to be the support system they never had, and would loosen residency requirements to adjust for the transience that's often part of their lives.

Some states — Maryland is one — are already doing this, including at Frostburg State, where Felton plans to study psychology. Soft-spoken and introspective about his years of neglect, he wants to be a therapist specializing in men's mental health. "A lot of men need that help, but don't get it," he told me as we sat on a park bench last week.

Experts have termed crises of the kind Felton endured a matter of caring, not legislating.

Felton and Burris didn't have parents urging them to write their college essays, to take the SAT prep course, to tour campuses — let alone parents who helped them fill out financial aid forms. That kind of caring had to come from the people who administer government assistance programs.

"This goes back to the culture of these places," said Burris, who still struggles every semester to get his housing and food benefits from a D.C. bureaucracy that has its computers down, is out to lunch, or simply shrugs when he wasn't informed about rule changes. "And that hurts my heart. Some of these people don't realize that they're all we have. *They* are our community."

MARYLAND

Montgomery sets ID requisite, backpack ban at school games after brawl

BY NICOLE ASBURY

After a brawl near the Bethesda Metro stop following a recent high school football game, Montgomery County Public Schools said backpacks will be banned from games and students will be required to present their school IDs for admission.

The decisions — announced late Wednesday — came after a spate of violent altercations Friday after a game between rivals Bethesda-Chevy Chase and Walter Johnson high schools. Multiple students were injured during the melee, and a district spokesperson previously told The Washington Post that at least one student went to the hospital.

No students have been charged criminally, though an investigation by police is ongoing. The school system said it has reviewed available evidence and that "appropriate disciplinary action" was taken.

In a letter to families, Montgomery County Public Schools Superintendent Monifa B. McKnight and Montgomery Police Chief Marcus Jones said the increased measures follow guidelines outlined in an "athletics safety plan" that the school system designed last year to prevent such brawls.

Among other safety measures announced: The school system will also require school-age spectators who want to attend a game but are not students of one of the competing schools to be accompanied by an adult for admission. Moving forward, varsity football games will also limit admission to 75 percent of stadium capacity and games could be shifted to daytime hours. People who act inappropriately "may be excluded from postseason competitions or suspended from multiple contests," according to the letter.

"This incident must serve as a teachable moment for our entire community," McKnight and Jones wrote.

If any more fights occur, the school system warned that it could impose more restrictions, including closing concession stands at games or limiting game attendance to only family members of student-athletes and participants. In the most extreme circumstances, no spectators could be allowed.

Montgomery County — Maryland's most-populous jurisdiction — saw other fights during and after athletic events last school year. Last fall, a brawl erupted at a game between Northwest and Gaithersburg high schools, which led to four juveniles and one adult being charged with assault. During another football game last year between Wootton and Whitman high schools, a group of students — neither from the two schools — were disruptive and abusive. The incident led to two student arrests.

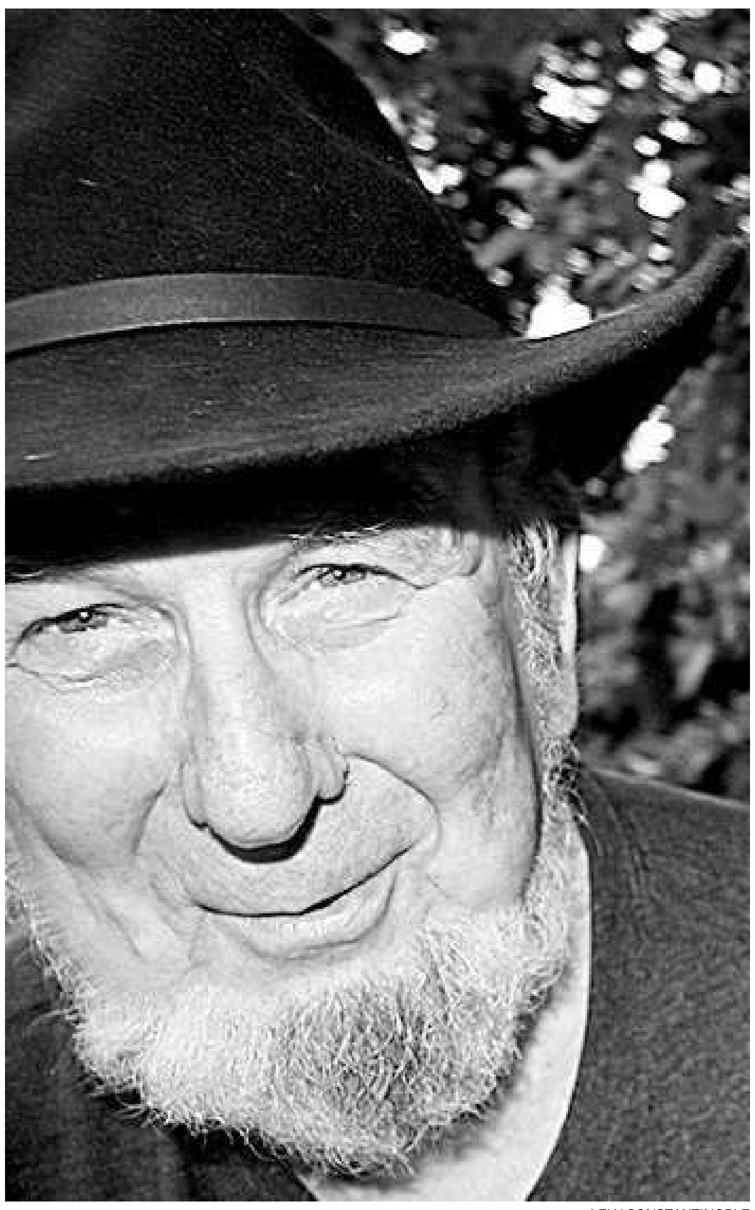
Friday's fight took place off school grounds. Bethesda students have been texting one another videos of the altercations, one student previously told The Post. Some of the videos are on social media. The Post hasn't independently verified the authenticity of the videos, which appear to capture students curled in fetal positions while they are being punched by another student.

Montgomery County police will assign officers to monitor areas where students are often known to congregate after games, according to the letter.

"We encourage parents and guardians to have conversations with their children about the inappropriate choice of violence and fighting, as well as the possible consequences," McKnight and Jones wrote. "These conversations are vital in reinforcing the values we hold dear within our community."

OBITUARIES

WILLIAM R. MACKAYE, 89



LELY CONSTANTINOPLE

William MacKaye was admiringly referred to as "Father MacKaye" when he worked on The Post's religion desk in the 1960s and 1970s.

Religion journalist and magazine editor at The Washington Post

BY ADAM BERNSTEIN

William R. MacKaye, a journalist who spent two decades at The Washington Post, initially as a reporter and editor of religious affairs and then as an editor on the paper's now-defunct magazine, died Aug. 21 at a hospital in New Haven, Conn. He was 89.

The cause was complications from a fall, said his son Alec MacKaye, a hardcore punk singer and songwriter.

Early in his career, Mr. MacKaye (rhymes with sky) was a Washington correspondent filing stories for both the Houston Chronicle and the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, and he covered the assassination of President John F. Kennedy in November 1963 from Dallas.

The next year, Mr. MacKaye was traveling with President Lyndon B. Johnson to a Miami hotel for a campaign stop when thousands of supporters grew so aggressively enthusiastic that policemen intervened to prevent the president from being injured. Mr. MacKaye said that about eight policemen grabbed him roughly and carried him from the hotel lobby to the street. He explained who he was and flashed his press credentials, only to be told they were the "wrong kind."

A former Episcopal seminarian, he left the politics beat in 1966 to join the religion desk at The Post as a way to combine his spiritual and journalistic interests, and colleagues admiringly referred to him as "Father MacKaye." Following a John S. Knight Journalism Fellowship at Stanford University in 1975, he found himself with a new boss and eventually shifted to The Post's magazine as an associate editor.

The magazine's editor at the time, Laura Longley, said she instantly handed to Mr. MacKaye stories that came in thousands of words over the assigned limit, because he was such a dependable colleague and top-notch wordsmith. "He could finesse it to the point where even the author could accept it," she said. "I could count on him to clean up anything and make it read better."

Mr. MacKaye was a freelance writer in subsequent years and became chief executive of In Trust, an organization that teaches principles of good governance to the boards and administrators of North American theological schools.

William Ross MacKaye was born in Manhattan on June 1, 1934, and grew up mostly in Washington. His father, Milton, was a magazine writer and book ghostwriter, and his mother, who wrote under the name Dorothy Cameron Disney, was a mystery novelist and marital advice columnist for Ladies' Home Journal.

He graduated in 1951 from the private Sidwell Friends School and in 1955 from Harvard University, and then spent a year doing postgraduate work at the General Theological Seminary in Manhattan before entering journalism as a reporter at the Minneapolis Star.

He was a chairman of the now-defunct Washington Free Clinic and a member of St. Stephen and the Incarnation Episcopal Church in the District. He was a resident of Washington but died while staying at a longtime summer residence in Guilford, Conn.

He was married to the former Mary Anne "Ginger" Garner from 1956 until her death in 2004. In addition to his son Alec, of Washington, survivors include four other children, Katharine MacKaye and Ian MacKaye of Washington, Susannah MacKaye of Oakland, Calif., and Amanda MacKaye of Arlington, Va.; and four grandchildren.

Three of his children — Alec, Ian and Amanda — had careers in punk rock. "We were always told to enjoy ourselves while we do what we do," Alec MacKaye said. "He was very supportive of everyone's creative endeavors. That was more important to him than career ambitions."

Retropolis

Stories of the past, rediscovered.

washingtonpost.com/retropolis

The Washington Post

S0129-2x3

DEATH NOTICE

BUTLER

ARLETHA RAE SNYDER BUTLER

Of Springfield, VA on September 3, 2023 at the age of 78. Friends welcome on Tuesday, September 19, 2023 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Demaine Funeral Home, 5308 Backlick Road, Springfield, VA 22151. A service will begin at 12 p.m. at the funeral home, followed by interment at Quantico National Cemetery. Please visit www.demainefunerals.com to read full obituary and leave a memory for the family.

CORLISS

BARBARA BELL CORLISS

Barbara Bell Corliss, lovingly known as Bobbie, passed away on September 3, 2023, at the age of 83. Born on December 24, 1939, in Agana Heights, Guam. Bobbie was a beloved wife, mother, sister, and friend, known for her generous nature, thoughtful demeanor, and loving heart. In her professional life, Bobbie was a respected Realtor and Insurance Analyst. She had a love for entertaining family and friends, often hosting gatherings and dinners that were remembered fondly by all who attended. Bobbie had a passion for traveling, having lived in and visited numerous countries and cultures. She loved to dance, her love for rhythm and movement evident in every step she took. Generous, thoughtful, and loving are the words that best describe Bobbie. And her love was boundless, a warm, comforting presence that will be missed deeply by all who knew her.

Bobbie is survived by her devoted husband of over 30 years, Joseph J. Corliss; her loving daughters from her prior marriage, Michelle Marie Sager, Andrea Lori McMahon, and Christine Renee Kerns; and her cherished sons-in-law, David Ehrlich, Jay McMahon, and Robert Kerns. Joseph's children, David Corliss and Kelly Anderson. She was the dutiful daughter of the late Henry Garrido Bell and Sixta Roberto Bell, and sister to her surviving siblings, Norma Jean and Ethel Margaret. She was predeceased by her siblings, Eric John, George Roberto, Geraldine Ann, Leaphia Marie, and David Eugene. Her love for her family extended to her adored grandchildren - Ryan, Lauren, David, Sarah, Nicole, Julia, Sophia, and Ava. Her joy exponentially multiplied with the addition of her great grandchildren from Ryan and Meghan Vess - Benjamin, Abigail, and Isabelle.

A visitation will be held at Robert A. Pumphrey Funeral Home in Rockville, Maryland on Saturday, September 9 from 3 to 5 p.m. Her burial service will be held at Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Silver Spring, Maryland on Monday, September 11 at 12 noon. Please view and sign online guestbook at

www.pumphreyfuneralhome.com

DEATH NOTICE

CSONGOS

FRANK T. CSONGOS

Frank Csongos was born on December 30, 1945, in Kiskoros, Hungary and passed away at home in Fairfax, VA on September 4, 2023. He was a former journalist and bureau chief at United Press International and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty. Frank is survived by his wife, Sylvia Csongos (née Gluck); daughter, Caroline Csongos; son-in-law, William Robbins; grandson, Alexander Robbins, granddaughter, Alyssa Robbins; several cousins, and dear friends. He is predeceased by his parents, Istvan "Pista" Csongos and Zsuzsi "Susie" Csongos (née Muncsik). Funeral service will be held on Sunday, September 10, at 10:30 a.m. at Fairfax Memorial Funeral Home, 9902 Braddock Rd, Fairfax, VA 22032 with burial following in Fairfax Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers, a donation can be made to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

When the need arises, let families find you in the Funeral Services Directory.

To be seen in the Funeral Services Directory, please call paid Death Notices at 202-334-4122.

The Washington Post

DEATH NOTICE

HIGGINS

PAUL E. HIGGINS DDS

Unexpectedly on August 9, 2023. Beloved husband of the late Ann W. Higgins; cherished father of Todd Higgins (Karen), Tim Higgins (Jamie), Tracey Witthaus (Richard), Tenley Jablinske (Michael); awesome "Papa" to Brendan (Haley), Trevor, Colin, Paul, Madelyn, Connor, Sierra, Liam and Eoin. He is also remembered fondly by his extended family, friends and patients. Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. Interment private. Contributions in his honor can be made to SmileTrain.org. Arrangements by Rapp Funeral and Cremation Services. Online condolences can be made at https://rappfuneral.com.

HIRSCHHORN

DR. JOEL STEPHEN HIRSCHHORN

Dr. Joel Stephen Hirschhorn, of Chevy Chase, MD, passed away on Wednesday, September 6, 2023 at the age of 83. He is survived by his wife Jaqueline M. Rams; by his daughters Terri Hayes and Lesa Stewart. He was predeceased by his sister Carol Babus and by his parents Blanche and Leon Hirschhorn.

Services at Ohr Kodesh Congregation, 8300 Meadowbrook Lane, Chevy Chase, MD 20815, on Friday, September 8th, 2023 at 11 a.m. Interment Chevra Ahavas Chesed Cemetery - Randallstown. In lieu of flowers, please direct contributions to Suburban Hospital (suburbanhospital.org). The family will be in mourning at the home of Jacqueline Rams.

PERRY

MARGARET PERRY

Margaret Perry, an expert in The Harlem Renaissance and an award-winning Librarian and Author, died in Ithaca, NY, on Wednesday, August 30, 2023. The daughter of Elizabeth Munford Anthony Perry and Dr. Rufus Perry, both deceased, she was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, on November 15, 1933. A funeral mass will be held on Friday, September 15, 2023, at 11 a.m. at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, 2800 Pennsylvania Ave., SE, Washington, DC. Burial to immediately follow at Lincoln Memorial Cemetery, 4001 Suitland Road, Silver Hill, MD 20746. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Interlochen Center for the Arts, 4000 J Maddy PKWY, Interlochen, MI 49643. Online condolences may be made to Margaret's family at

RAYMOND

GEORGE C. RAYMOND

It is with sadness that George C Raymond died at age 75 on August 27, 2023. He was preceded by his wife Bonnie Raymond and his parents Henry M. Raymond and Ann W. Raymond. George served in the US Navy with distinction. George and Bonnie had a very loving marriage that lasted for decades. George is survived by 3three brothers: Henry Marston Raymond Jr., James Patrick Raymond and John Edward Raymond. His ashes will be interned at Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Montgomery County, MD. Our prayers go with him.

ROSENBLUM

RABBI HERBERT ROSENBLUM

On Thursday, September 7, 2023, RABBI HERBERT ROSENBLUM of Rockville, MD. Beloved husband of the late Sheila Mirsky Rosenblum. Devoted father of Tamar (Philip) Warburg and Varda (David) Makovsky. Loving grandmother of Tali (Jeff) Goldstein, Maya Warburg and Tani, Elliana and Joshua Makovsky. He was predeceased by his sisters, Dena Kogen and Miriam Edelman. Funeral service will be held on Sunday, September 10, 2023, 1 p.m. at Judean Memorial Gardens Chapel, Olney, MD, with burial immediately following. Shiva will be observed at the home of Varda and David Makovsky. Memorial contributions may be made to the Jewish Theological Seminary, www.jtsa.edu. Arrangements entrusted to TORCHINSKY HEBREW FUNERAL HOME, 202-541-1001.

DEATH NOTICE

SEAWRIGHT

MARY ELLEN SEAWRIGHT

November 23, 1939 – August 21, 2023

Funeral Services: Visitation 10 to 11 a.m., Funeral 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Lee Funeral Home, 6633 Old Alexandria Ferry Road, Clinton, MD 20735.

DEATH NOTICE

CARROLL

PAUL E. CARROLL SR.

Entered into eternal rest on Thursday, August 31, 2023. He is survived by his wife, Valerie M Carroll; daughter, Tia K Carroll; son, Paul E Carroll, Jr., two grandchildren, Penelope Carroll and Graham Carroll; sister, Denise Johnson; two brothers, Reginald Carroll and Norval E Carroll; a host of other relatives and friends. Mr. Carroll was preceded in death by his parents, Norval B. and Ruth H. Carroll, and brother Michael Carroll. Mr. Carroll will lie in state at Mt. Calvary Catholic Church, 6702 Marlboro Pike, Forestville, MD on Monday, September 11 from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Celebration of life will be held on Tuesday, September 12 at 11:30 a.m. Interment at Resurrection Cemetery.

DENT

CHARLES H DENT JR.
(Age 88)

Passed peacefully on Tuesday, August 22, 2023 after a brief illness. He is survived by his children, Ivan Dent (Kim) and Marlene Dent Clifton; sister, Arleen Dent Winfield, sister-in-law, Vivian S. Dent; brother-in-law, Adolphus Creenshaw and a host of other relatives and friends.

Service will be held on Saturday, September 9, 2023 at Gethsemane United Methodist Church, 910 Addison Road South, Capitol Heights, MD 20743. Visitation 10:30 a.m. until time of service at 12 noon. Interment Lincoln Cemetery, Monday, September 11, 2023 at 12 noon.

www.mcguire-services.com

HUNT

PATRICIA ANN HUNT
October 12, 1951 - September 2, 2023

Patricia Ann Hunt of Rockville, Maryland passed away on Saturday, September 2, 2023. Born on October 12, 1951 in Washington, DC to Louise and Robert Williamson, Patricia was the middle daughter of seven siblings. She was a proud graduate of Howard University and had a storied 20+ year career in the U.S. government, retiring as Deputy Director of the National Archives. She leaves behind to cherish her memory her loving husband, Earl Hunt; two children, Victoria Hunt and Earl Hunt II (Kristina); three grandchildren, Earl III, Kristopher and Patrick Hunt; two sisters, Elaine Watson (Chris) and Darlene Roulhac (Michael), brother, Michael Williamson; and a host of loving family and friends. Funeral services will be held on Monday, September 11, 2023 with a viewing at 10 a.m. and service at 11 a.m. Services will be held at Hughes United Methodist Church, 10700 Georgia Avenue, Wheaton, MD 20902. Interment will be private. Services entrusted to Grace Murray Funeral Home.

DEATH NOTICE

WILLIAMS

C. RUSSELL WILLIAMS
(Age 91)

Passed peacefully on Friday, September 1, 2023, surrounded by his wife and three children. Service will be held on Saturday, September 9, 2023 at Ft. Washington Baptist Church, 11516 Fort Washington Road, Fort Washington, MD 20744. Visitation 11 a.m. until time of service at 12 noon. Interment, Cheltenham Veterans Cemetery at a later date.

www.briscoe-tonicfuneralhome.com

CEMETERY LOTS

FORT LINCOLN CEMETERY - Brentwood, MD. 2 plots for sale by owner. Call **301-404-8427 or 301-868-3268**

DEATH NOTICES
MONDAY- FRIDAY 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
SATURDAY-SUNDAY 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

To place a notice, call:
202-334-4122
800-627-1150 ext 4-4122
EMAIL:
deathnotices@washpost.com

Email and faxes MUST include name, home address & home phone # of the responsible billing party.
Email deadline - 3 p.m. daily
Phone-In deadline
4 p.m. M-F
3 p.m. Sa-Su

CURRENT 2023 RATES:
(PER DAY)

MONDAY-SATURDAY
Black & White
1" - $155 (text only)
2" - $355 (text only)
3" - $505
4" - $555
5" - $700

SUNDAY
Black & White
1"- $185 (text only)
2" - $390 (text only)
3" - $560
4" - $590
5" - $765

6"+ for ALL Black & White notices
$155 each additional inch Mon - Sat
$185 each additional inch Sunday

MONDAY-SATURDAY
Color
3" - $650
4" - $700
5" - $855

SUNDAY
Color
3" - $685
4" - $785
5" - $955

6"+ for ALL color notices
$260 each additional inch Mon - Sat
$290 each additional inch Sunday

Notices with photos begin at 3"
(All photos add 2" to your notice.)

ALL NOTICES MUST BE PREPAID

MEMORIAL PLAQUES:
All notices over 2" include complimentary memorial plaque

Additional plaques start at $26 each and may be ordered.

All Paid Death Notices appear on our website through www.legacy.com

LEGACY.COM
Included in all death notices
Optional for In Memoriams

PLEASE NOTE:

Notices must be placed via phone or email. Photos must be emailed. You can no longer place notices, drop off photos and make payment in person.
Payment must be made via phone with debit/credit card.

The Washington Post

DEATH NOTICE

COCOZZELLA

EMILIO JOSEPH COCOZZELLA

In Loving Memory of
Emilio Joseph Cocozzella

Emilio Joseph Cocozzella, a true embodiment of the classic American Dream, passed away on September 5, 2023, in Silver Spring, MD, at the remarkable age of 91. Born in the small village of Monicillioni, Italy, in 1932, Emilio's journey led him to the United States at the age of 16, where he would leave an indelible mark on the lives of those around him.

After serving in the Army, Emilio began his career in the masonry business, but his entrepreneurial spirit led him to venture into various industries alongside his family and friends. In 1977, he founded Potomac Stone Company alongside his two sons, and dedicated years of hard work until his retirement in 1997.

Emilio's greatest joy in life was his loving wife of 70 years, Yvette, who survives him. Together, they traveled the world, always finding their way back to his cherished homeland of Italy. Emilio's passion for family and friends was evident in the many gatherings he organized, from memorable beach vacations and enchanting cruises, to delightful backyard pool parties and festive holiday celebrations. His sociable nature, generosity, and kind soul left a lasting impact on all who had the privilege of knowing him.

Emilio Joseph Cocozzella is survived by his children: Andrea Cocozzella (Christina), Robert Cocozzella (Paula). His grandchildren, Michael Cocozzella (Heather), Matthew Cocozzella (Kristen), Eva Harvey (Adam), Nicholas, Justin, Gabriela, and Isabela. He also leaves behind five adored great-grandchildren: Luca, Daniella, Leo, Savannah, and Caroline. Emilio was predeceased by his parents, brother, sisters, and his grandson Marc.

Emilio Joseph Cocozzella will forever be remembered as a hardworking, sociable, generous, and loving individual who appreciated the simple pleasures of life. Whether it was savoring delicious food, enjoying fine wine, paying homage to his Italian heritage, or relishing the company of his beloved family and friends, Emilio's presence brought joy and warmth to every gathering. He will be deeply missed and his memory will be cherished by all those who had the privilege of knowing him.

A visitation will be held on Saturday, September 9, 2023, at 10 a.m., followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church, located at 15661 Norbeck Boulevard, Silver Spring, MD 20906. On Monday, September 11, 2023, at 10 a.m., Entombment at Gate of Heaven Mausoleum. Arrangements have been entrusted to the compassionate care of Philip D. Rinaldi Funeral Service, P.A.

DEATH NOTICE

DAVIS

LILLIAN RIFKIN DAVIS

Lillian Rifkin Davis, of Baltimore, MD, passed away on Tuesday, September 5, 2023 at the age of 96. She is survived by her devoted children, Hirsch (Teresa) Davis, Marsha (Shmuel) Benshir, Risa (Steve) Kramer; adoring grandchildren, Jacob (Lori) Kotlicky, Rebecca (Jonathan) Porges, Isaac (Courtney) Kotlicky, Sara (Moshe) Shamouilian, Avi (Alison) Kotlicky, Helen (Jason) Kramer, Abriel Kramer and Frances Kramer; and 12 great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her beloved husband, Morton Davis; loving sisters, Ruth (Bernard) Soroka and Selma (Philip) Berger; and devoted parents Fannie and Jake Rifkin.

Lillian served as the Assistant Principal of Ivymount School, President of MANSEF, President of the Board of Jewish Education, and was a member of Congregation Beth El of Montgomery County and she received many awards.

Services at Sol Levinson's Chapel, 8900 Reisterstown Road, Pikesville, MD 21208, on Thursday, September 7, 2023 at 12 p.m. Interment Hebrew Friendship Cemetery, 3600 E. Baltimore Street, Baltimore, MD 21224. Please omit flowers. Contributions in her memory may be sent to, The Maryland Science Center, 601 Light Street, Baltimore, MD 21230; Magan David Adom, 20 West 36th Street, Suite 1100, New York, NY 10018; Friends of the IDF, PO Box 4224, New York, NY 10163; Ivymount School, 11614 Seven Locks Road, Rockville, MD 20854. The family will be in mourning at the home of Risa and Steve Kramer, Thursday - After interment until 9 p.m. with a service at 7 p.m., and Sunday - From 12 to 3 p.m., and from 4 to 8 p.m. with a service at 7 p.m.

Additional Shiva Locations and times: Friday Only - at Vantage House, 5400 Vantage Point Rd, Columbia, MD 21044, from 1 to 3 p.m. Monday and Tuesday only - at Ohev Sholom Talmud Torah Congregation of Olney, 18320 Georgia Ave, Olney, MD 20832. Please check the Sol Levinson website for updated shiva times.

www.sollevinson.com

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The Washington Post

When the need arises, let families find you in the Funeral Services Directory.

To be seen in the Funeral Services Directory, please call paid Death Notices at 202-334-4122.

The Washington Post

THE WEATHER

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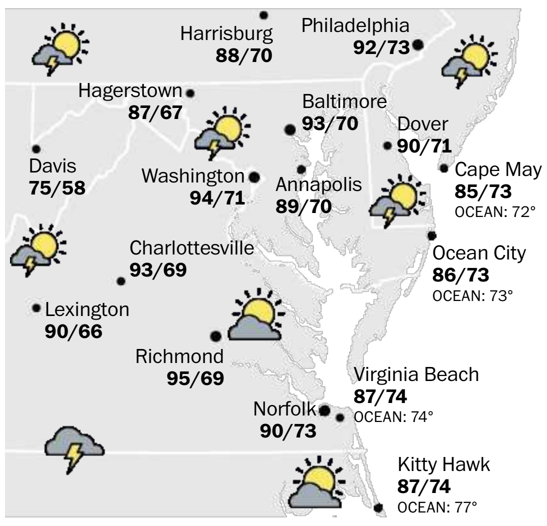
Still hot and humid

Partly to mostly sunny skies last through the day. We could see a couple of late-day showers and storms, with perhaps better odds into the evening. Highs are near 90 and into the low 90s. A south wind keeps us rather humid.

Today	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
T-storms	T-storm	T-storms	Cloudy, humid	Showers	Showers, humid
94° 71°	85° 70°	81° 67°	83° 68°	86° 69°	82° 67°
FEELS*: **100°**	FEELS: **91°**	FEELS: **86°**	FEELS: **85°**	FEELS: **91°**	FEELS: **85°**
CHNCE PRECIP: **85%**	P: **90%**	P: **100%**	P: **25%**	P: **65%**	P: **70%**
WIND: **SSE 6–12 mph**	W: **ESE 4–8 mph**	W: **S 4–8 mph**	W: **W 6–12 mph**	W: **NW 4–8 mph**	W: **SSW 4–8 mph**
HUMIDITY: **Very High**	H: **Very High**	H: **Very High**	H: **High**	H: **High**	H: **Very High**

REGION



Pollen: High
Grass Moderate
Trees Moderate
Weeds High
Mold Moderate

Air Quality: Moderate
Dominant cause: Ozone

UV: High
6 out of 11+

Blue Ridge: Today, showers, a heavier thunderstorm this afternoon. High 73 to 77. Winds south 6–12 mph. Tonight, a couple of showers, a thunderstorm; however, a thunderstorm in northern parts. Low 61 to 65. Winds south–southwest 4–8 mph.

Atlantic beaches: Today, uncomfortably humid. High 86 to 90. Winds south 8–16 mph. Tonight, a stray thunderstorm. Low 71 to 75. Winds south 7–14 mph. Saturday, a thunderstorm in spots. High 81 to 86. Winds south 7–14 mph.

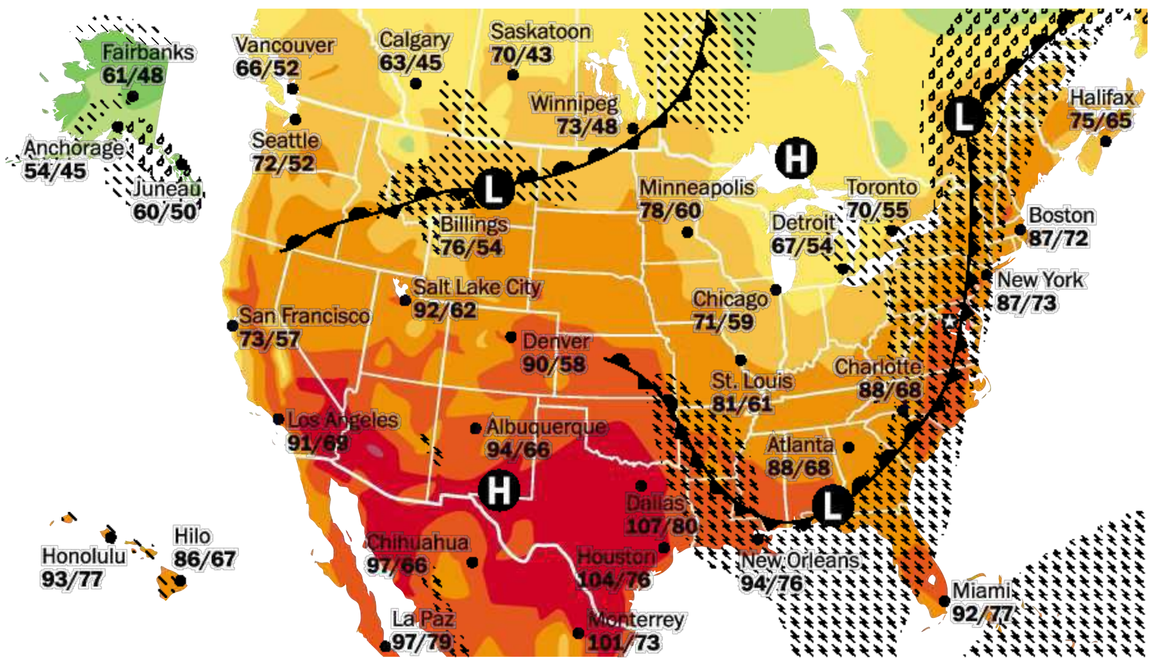
Waterways: *Upper Potomac River*: Today, mostly cloudy, showers, a heavier t-storm in the afternoon. Wind south 4–8 knots. Waves 0–1 foot. • *Lower Potomac and Chesapeake Bay*: Today, mostly cloudy, a shower, t-storm in the afternoon. Wind southeast 6–12 knots. Waves 0–1 foot on the Lower Potomac; 1–2 feet on the Chesapeake Bay.• *River Stages*: The stage at Little Falls will be around 2.40 feet today, with no change of 2.40 Saturday. Flood stage at Little Falls is 10 feet.

Today's tides (High tides in **Bold**)

Washington	**3:22 a.m.**	10:48 a.m.	**4:08 p.m.**	10:35 p.m.
Annapolis	**1:17 a.m.**	7:43 a.m.	**12:22 p.m.**	6:49 p.m.
Ocean City	**2:48 a.m.**	8:54 a.m.	**3:36 p.m.**	10:22 p.m.
Norfolk	**4:57 a.m.**	10:58 a.m.	**5:42 p.m.**	none
Point Lookout	4:09 a.m.	**8:42 a.m.**	2:35 p.m.	**9:59 p.m.**

NATION

Weather map features for noon today.

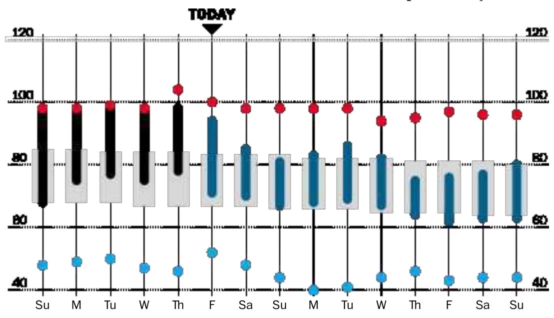


Yesterday's National
High: Sherman, TX **111°**
Low: Angel Fire, NM **31°**
for the 48 contiguous states

World
High: Yanbu, Saudi Arabia **120°**
Low: La Quiaca, Argentina **25°**
excludes Antarctica

OFFICIAL RECORD

Temperatures

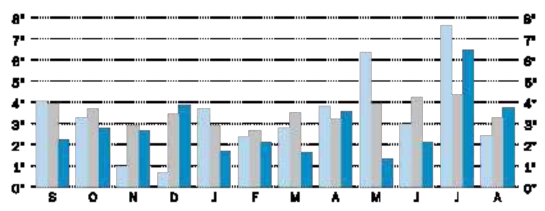


Statistics through 5 p.m. Thursday

	National	Dulles	BWI
High	**98°** 1:27 p.m.	**97°** 12:25 p.m.	**98°** 12:32 p.m.
Low	**78°** 6:00 a.m.	**73°** 4:11 a.m.	**74°** 6:00 a.m.
Normal	84°/67°	82°/61°	83°/62°
Record high	104° 1881	97° 2023	101° 1881
Record low	46° 1924	41° 1976	45° 1962

Difference from 30-yr. avg. (National): this month: **+6.1°** yr. to date: **+2.0°**

Precipitation



	National	Dulles	BWI
Past 24 hours	0.00"	Trace	Trace
Total this month	0.00"	Trace	Trace
Normal	0.89"	0.85"	0.97"
Total this year	22.49"	19.22"	24.90"
Normal	28.80"	30.07"	30.75"

Moon Phases

Sep 14	Sep 22	Sep 29	Oct 6
New	First Quarter	Full	Last Quarter

Solar system

	Rise	Set
Sun	6:43 a.m.	7:28 p.m.
Moon	12:17 a.m.	4:14 p.m.
Venus	4:13 a.m.	5:30 p.m.
Mars	8:33 a.m.	8:22 p.m.
Jupiter	9:59 p.m.	11:47 a.m.
Saturn	6:59 p.m.	5:45 a.m.

NATIONAL	Today	Tomorrow
Albany, NY	85/68/t	77/68/t
Albuquerque	94/66/s	93/67/s
Anchorage	54/45/c	55/43/r
Atlanta	88/68/s	86/68/t
Austin	107/75/s	104/75/t
Baltimore	93/70/t	86/69/t
Billings, MT	76/54/t	70/49/t
Birmingham	87/67/s	89/67/s
Bismarck, ND	74/57/s	69/51/c
Boise	85/59/pc	88/59/s
Boston	87/72/t	81/70/t
Buffalo	74/60/t	74/60/sh
Burlington, VT	82/62/t	75/64/t
Charleston, SC	88/73/t	83/70/t
Charleston, WV	81/65/pc	75/63/pc
Charlotte	88/68/t	79/65/t
Cheyenne, WY	82/56/s	77/50/t
Chicago	71/59/pc	74/59/pc
Cincinnati	77/62/pc	78/61/pc
Cleveland	68/59/c	72/63/pc
Dallas	107/80/t	99/77/t
Denver	90/58/s	85/54/s

City	Today	Tomorrow
Des Moines	82/56/s	84/61/s
Detroit	67/54/c	72/59/pc
El Paso	102/75/s	102/77/s
Fairbanks, AK	61/48/pc	61/42/sh
Fargo, ND	78/58/s	70/50/t
Hartford, CT	88/71/t	83/70/t
Honolulu	93/77/pc	93/79/sh
Houston	104/76/t	95/76/t
Indianapolis	74/61/c	77/58/pc
Jackson, MS	95/64/pc	93/62/pc
Jacksonville, FL	88/69/t	87/69/t
Kansas City, MO	85/58/s	85/60/s
Las Vegas	101/77/s	104/79/s
Little Rock	90/67/c	88/64/s
Los Angeles	91/69/s	92/73/s
Louisville	80/65/pc	80/66/pc
Memphis	86/66/pc	83/65/s
Miami	92/77/s	92/78/pc
Milwaukee	67/57/pc	72/59/pc
Minneapolis	78/60/s	76/59/sh
Nashville	84/66/s	84/65/s
New Orleans	94/76/pc	93/77/t
New York City	87/73/t	82/72/t
Norfolk	90/73/pc	85/72/t

City	Today	Tomorrow
Oklahoma City	97/68/pc	91/67/s
Omaha	84/57/s	83/61/s
Orlando	89/72/t	91/75/t
Philadelphia	92/73/t	86/71/t
Phoenix	110/84/s	112/87/s
Pittsburgh	75/61/t	76/63/sh
Portland, ME	85/68/c	79/66/t
Portland, OR	78/55/s	83/58/s
Providence, RI	84/70/c	83/68/t
Raleigh, NC	93/72/t	83/69/t
Reno, NV	85/54/s	85/54/s
Richmond	95/69/t	87/67/t
Sacramento	90/58/s	91/56/s
St. Louis	81/61/s	80/61/s
St. Thomas, VI	89/82/sh	89/81/pc
Salt Lake City	92/62/s	89/63/s
San Diego	79/68/pc	81/69/s
San Francisco	73/57/pc	74/55/s
San Juan, PR	90/80/sh	90/80/t
Seattle	72/52/s	77/54/s
Spokane, WA	75/54/pc	78/57/s
Syracuse	77/63/t	76/64/t
Tampa	89/76/t	90/77/t
Wichita	96/62/s	94/63/s

WORLD	Today	Tomorrow
Addis Ababa	69/58/r	73/58/r
Amsterdam	85/63/s	82/63/s
Athens	84/72/pc	83/70/s
Auckland	63/51/pc	63/52/pc
Baghdad	112/81/pc	109/77/pc
Bangkok	93/82/t	96/82/t
Beijing	82/71/sh	76/67/r
Berlin	85/57/s	87/56/pc
Bogota	68/50/r	67/50/r
Brussels	88/64/s	88/65/s
Buenos Aires	64/50/pc	63/55/pc
Cairo	99/81/s	94/83/s
Caracas	78/67/sh	78/67/t
Copenhagen	75/63/s	75/61/pc
Dakar	89/80/t	93/80/pc
Dublin	78/61/pc	75/59/sh
Edinburgh	78/59/pc	76/59/pc
Frankfurt	86/57/s	87/60/s
Geneva	88/63/s	88/62/s
Ham., Bermuda	86/77/t	87/78/pc
Helsinki	71/54/c	69/56/pc
Ho Chi Minh City	92/78/t	89/78/t
Hong Kong	84/77/t	83/77/sh

City	Today	Tomorrow
Islamabad	99/76/s	98/76/s
Istanbul	86/70/pc	83/69/pc
Jerusalem	98/74/s	89/68/s
Johannesburg	82/53/pc	85/54/s
Kabul	90/59/s	91/62/s
Kingston, Jam.	92/79/t	94/79/t
Kolkata	90/82/t	92/82/t
Kyiv	74/54/s	71/49/s
Lagos	87/76/t	86/75/t
Lima	72/63/pc	71/63/pc
Lisbon	78/66/sh	78/64/t
London	86/64/pc	89/67/pc
Madrid	86/65/s	81/63/t
Manila	90/78/t	89/78/c
Mexico City	78/55/pc	79/56/pc
Montreal	76/58/sh	75/63/c
Moscow	58/42/pc	64/49/c
Mumbai	86/82/sh	89/83/sh
Nairobi	74/60/r	73/59/c
New Delhi	92/81/pc	88/79/t
Oslo	72/58/c	70/59/pc
Ottawa	72/52/pc	75/58/c
Paris	94/66/s	94/66/s
Prague	83/53/s	82/54/s

City	Today	Tomorrow
Rio de Janeiro	81/69/pc	84/68/pc
Riyadh	112/83/s	112/86/s
Rome	88/63/s	85/62/s
San Salvador	87/69/t	85/67/t
Santiago	64/49/c	59/50/c
Sarajevo	80/49/s	82/49/s
Seoul	90/67/s	90/69/s
Shanghai	92/70/pc	90/69/pc
Singapore	86/79/t	87/79/sh
Stockholm	70/55/pc	73/56/c
Sydney	73/48/pc	64/48/s
Taipei City	85/73/r	93/73/s
Tehran	98/77/s	96/74/s
Tokyo	81/78/r	89/79/s
Toronto	70/55/c	70/60/pc
Vienna	82/53/s	84/55/s
Warsaw	80/56/s	78/55/pc

Key: **s**-sunny, **pc**-partly cloudy, **c**-cloudy, **r**-rain, **sh**-showers, **t**-thunderstorms, **sf**-snow flurries, **sn**-snow, **i**-ice

Sources: **AccuWeather.com**; US Army Centralized Allergen Extract Lab (pollen data); airnow.gov (air quality data); National Weather Service

* AccuWeather's **RealFeel Temperature®** combines over a dozen factors for an accurate measure of how the conditions really "feel."

THE REGION

D.C. area in throes of its most intense heat wave on record this late in year

BY IAN LIVINGSTON

Thursday was the final day of widespread record highs in the Washington-Baltimore region, and the late-season heat wave solidified its place in the record books.

No heat wave this late into September has been this hot.

Since Sunday, the region's three airport weather-observing locations — Reagan National (the District's official site), Dulles International and Baltimore-Washington International Marshall (Baltimore's official site) — have endured their hottest five-day September periods on record.

Amid the heat wave, Dulles reached 100 for the first time in September.

Records fell for a fifth straight day on Thursday. Since the District's highest September temperature of 104 came on the same date in 1881, it was not challenged.

But heat indexes, a measure of how hot it feels factoring in humidity, were that high.

Days and days of high temperatures in the upper 90s to around 100 are more typical of the hottest portion of midsummer, and some years it never gets so hot.

The heat is wildly out of place for September.

Key records

The five days of high temperatures reaching at least 97 degrees in Washington marks the hottest such stretch this late in the year in records going back to 1872, when observations began. Only four years have seen longer streaks in any month, according to data from the Southeast Regional Climate Center.

In Baltimore, its five-day streak reaching at least 98 degrees tied its second longest on record, regardless of the month. The same was true at Dulles for its five-day streak at or above 97.

Between Sunday and Wednesday, calendar day record highs were set every day at Dulles and in Baltimore, as well as three times in the District. Dulles picked up another Thursday.

Here's a quick breakdown:

• The District set calendar day record highs of 98 and 99 on Monday and Tuesday. Its high of 98 on Wednesday tied the calendar day record. The 99-degree high on Tuesday marked its fifth-highest temperature recorded this late in the year.

• Dulles set a September record high when it hit 100 on Wednesday. Before that, it tied the previous September record of 99 on three straight days. Thursday's high of 97 marked a calendar day record.

• Baltimore hit a calendar day record on Wednesday, reaching 100 for only the fourth time in September since 1872. Before that, it set calendar day record highs of 98, 99 and 99, Sunday through Tuesday.

July or September?

Hot weather can last into September with ease in the Mid-Atlantic, but it's usually less intense than during the core summer months. Not so in 2023.

Before this heat wave, the District's previous highest temperature of the year was 97 on July 29. That has been topped four times in recent days. It's the first time September has featured the highest temperature of the year since 1970, and one of only a few instances overall.

High temperatures have run about 15 degrees above normal during this stretch. The average high in Washington is around 83 or 84 degrees. The first week of the month was about as warm as it gets, despite two cooler-than-normal days.

A hot end to a mild summer

Part of the pain of this late-season heat wave is that much of the region had a relatively mild summer overall. While intense heat waves persistently scorched the Southern United States, frequent cold fronts and intrusions of smoky Canadian air kept extreme heat in check locally.

Washington has had only 31 days at or above 90 degrees through Thursday, compared with an annual average of around 40 such days to date.

Oddly, the District has seen fewer 90-degree days than Dulles and Baltimore, which are ordinarily cooler. They have seen 44 and 34 such days, respectively, compared with an average of 33 and 35 annually.

This summer, all three locations have seen a below-average number of days reaching at least 95 degrees.

Throughout the summer, temperatures north and west of Washington have tended to be warmer than those south and east. This may be partly attributable to increasing drought focused northwest of the Beltway since drier land surfaces are easier to heat up.

The end is near?

While cooler than previous days this week, Friday will remain unseasonably hot for this late in the summer season. But once the 90-degree heat departs, that may be the end of it until next summer.

In an average year, the final 90-degree day comes during the second week of September in the District. Last year, it occurred Sept. 4. That said, the area didn't get its final taste of 90s until the first week of October in 2018 and 2019.

Toward mid-September, the weather pattern favors hotter weather in the West and average to somewhat cooler-than-normal weather in the East. There is no real sign that we'll see a resurgence of heat.

If you want to mark your calendar, the latest 90-degree day on record in the District is Oct. 11.

SUNDAY PREVIEW

ARTS & STYLE

Fall Arts Preview

Start planning your fall entertainment calendar. Our critics deliver an advance peek at the most anticipated shows, concerts, events and exhibitions heading our way in the coming months.

• Theater
• Movies
• Dance
• Pop Music
• Classical Music
• Art
• TV
• Video Games

N23-0458-2x8

The Washington Post

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The Washington Post
STYLE
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2023 EZ RE C

TV REVIEW

‘Changeling’ is brilliant, but storytelling has its flaws

BY LILI LOOFBOUROW

What if babies are monsters?

It’s the kind of thing exhausted parents kid about: parasite babies, vampire babies, babies as leeches, babies that bite. They’re jokes for good reason; the things infants do to human bodies defy description, and some parental feelings are — well — hard.

We’ve taxonomized a few, of course. Postpartum depression is broadly discussed even if it’s imperfectly understood, and whole industries have sprung up to address the anxieties of fathers and mothers (and to profitably spark new ones). But so little has been unpacked, really, especially given this specific moment in history, when humans half-live online. And if the parenting internet can teach us anything, it’s that irony isn’t dead: A generation of overachieving optimizers who burned out is now, having reproduced — and being fully aware of climate change — aiming every bit of the neurotic musculature it developed in youth to the doomed project of raising calm, unvexed, emotionally brilliant children.

And, being optimizers, they’re convinced that they can do it.

The truly mythic scope of all the hope and damage, ambition, adoration, failure, effort and compromise that goes into

SEE TV REVIEW ON C3

MacArthur readies large lifeline for local news

BY PAUL FARHI

As the financial picture for local news gets worse, a coalition of charitable foundations is offering a potential lifeline: an infusion of $500 million to help media organizations report on their communities.

The new Press Forward initiative announced Thursday by the MacArthur Foundation is the largest single philanthropic commitment to journalism after numerous other charitable efforts over the past decade or so to seed new ventures and shore up troubled news operations.

“My sense is that we are losing a newspaper in America every week, and that’s a dangerous thing for American democracy,” the foundation’s president, John Palfrey, said in an interview. “It’s hard to have a democracy when you don’t have good local news. When you lose credible news sources, misinformation and disinformation swoop in.”

The money from MacArthur in collaboration with 21 other foundations — effectively $100 million a year for five years — comes after an era-defining shift from print to digital publishing that triggered the loss of local advertising to competitors such as Google and Facebook. Roughly 2,500 newspapers have closed since 2005, mostly of them small weeklies, while broadcast news has suffered, as well. This has left a growing number of news “deserts,” communities without any professional me-

SEE MACARTHUR ON C3

MOVIES IN WEEKEND

My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3
★★☆☆
Comedy franchise travels abroad, bringing a thin plot and thinner characters. **22**

The Nun II
★★☆☆
Taissa Farmiga horror sequel proves you can’t keep a good demon down. **23**

Desperate Souls, Dark City and the Legend of Midnight Cowboy
★★★☆
Wide-ranging documentary explores the legacy of the Oscar-winning 1969 film. **24**

For New York Fashion Week, J. Crew wants to remember its past, while Victoria’s Secret wants to forget its own

BRYAN ANSELM FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Familiar brands, different trails

BY ASHLEY FETTERS MALOY AND MAURA JUDKIS
IN NEW YORK

As Fashion Week descends upon Manhattan, two legacy mall brands offered an unofficial kickoff to New York Fashion Week and a marked contrast in how to reinvent themselves after hard times. One was J. Crew. The other was Victoria’s Secret.

In her signature thick-framed glasses, Jenna Lyons flitted around Tuesday’s party dedicated to the 40th anniversary of the brand that made her famous. The former creative director of J. Crew womenswear oversaw the brand’s golden era, when it was worn by first lady Michelle Obama and seemingly every young professional 20-something in America. Now, six years after she left the brand, Lyons was back, as a newly minted star of “The Real Housewives of New York,” to help usher in a new era for an old flame.

Lyons danced with model Joan Smalls as the indie-rock band the Strokes played on the Rooftop at Pier 17, a riverside venue in Manhattan with spectacular views of the Brooklyn Bridge. She mingled with VIP guests such as Diane Keaton, as well as friends from her tenure at J. Crew. The day after the event, posing on Instagram in a black pencil skirt and crop top laden with paillettes, she posted a message wishing her former employer the best after their much-publicized breakup: “I am rooting for you @jcrew.”

Three years ago J. Crew was bankrupt, as the pandemic accelerated a retail apocalypse. Now, the choice brand for accessible moneyed prep is in the midst of yet another grand reinvention, though its ethos isn’t rocket science: Blend the old with the new, and hope to please everybody.

J. Crew CEO Libby Wadle said as much in an emailed statement sent via a publicist: “Through our design, stores and overall creative approach, we’ve prioritized capturing the brand heritage in new ways — and always through a firmly modern lens.”

J. Crew isn’t the only old-school brand attempting a reboot. For suburban middle-class millennials of a certain age, the aughts were defined by a quintet of mall brands — J. Crew, Victoria’s Secret, Banana Republic, Abercrombie & Fitch and the Gap — that defined their teenage and young-adult style as smart but simple, and sexy but safe. A collection of circumstances both financial and cultural caused those brands to lose their way, ceding relevance to fast-fashion retailers and new brands with a wider range of sizes and a stronger point of view.

But lately, 30-somethings for whom a lacy Victoria’s Secret bra and a J. Crew No. 2 Pencil Skirt were a rite of passage into

SEE FASHION ON C2

At the J. Crew party for New York Fashion Week, attendees pose for photos near a vintage white Land Rover surrounded by piles of hardcover books. The brand is looking to regain its luster from its glory days in the early 2000s.

Broadway director Walker-Webb to head key Baltimore theater

BY PETER MARKS

Stevie Walker-Webb has directed on Broadway, created performance pieces from Mississippi to Madagascar, and inherited a deep love of language from his mother, a Texas poet. Now he carries this rich life in the arts to Baltimore, where he has been named to head the city’s premier theater company.

Officials at Baltimore Center Stage, the 60-year-old flagship of plays and musicals in Maryland’s largest city, announced Thursday the appointment of Walker-Webb as its new artistic director, succeeding Stephanie Ybarra, who left this year for a post at the Mellon Foundation. The 36-year-old native of Waco, Tex., takes the company reins Oct. 1 from interim leader Ken-Matt Martin.

“It’s exhilarating,” Walker-Webb said. “I feel like I’m joining a league of legends, you know? Like super artists, heroes, who are here to make sure that the theater can survive for generations to come. And that is a really exciting feeling.”

In a period of declining theater attendance and shifts in consumer tastes, the nation’s theater leaders are faced with formidable challenges to traditional programming and funding. It was the energy and inventiveness exhibited by Walker-Webb — who has directed several times at Center Stage, including R. Eric Thomas’s original comedy “The Folks at Home,” last year — that won over a nine-member search committee, said Sandy Liotta, chair of the theater’s board.

VSDAVIS PHOTOGRAPHY

Stevie Walker-Webb will take over as artistic director at Baltimore Center Stage.

“What really captivated us was not only his vision for bringing back the theatergoers who already were familiar with us, but it was his energy and his enthusiasm around what he called a ‘visceral calling,’” Liotta said. “Baltimore was the most exciting place because it centered for him what he wants to do in terms of combining art, community and culture building. I get goose bumps just recalling for you how we felt.”

Liotta said the search committee, led by board vice president Jill Pratt, received 150 applications; nine applicants were invited for interviews. “He received unanimous board approval,” Liotta said. “The main attribute we were looking for was a high level of artistic practice, civic engagement being part of that work. It’s so important these days.

“Obviously, the strategic vision — we wanted him to thrive locally, but with national attention, and then the people skills, the relationship and partnership cultivation, being able to influence people to either come back to the theater or come to theater for the first time,” she said. “He checked off all the boxes.”

Walker-Webb, who studied political science and social work in college, has had something of a peripatetic journey through American theater. He founded his own company, Jubilee Theatre, in Fort Worth, wrote plays and traveled to Madagascar several years ago to stage “King Lear” in the African island nation’s native language, Malagasy. In 2019, he directed Woolly Mammoth Theatre’s raucous, highly praised production of Jackie Sibblies Drury’s Pulitzer Prize-winning comedy, “Fairview.”

And last season, he made his Broadway directorial debut with Jordan E. Cooper’s “Ain’t No Mo’.” The production ran for only six weeks but garnered six Tony nominations, including one for best play and one for Walker-Webb’s direction.

SEE BALTIMORE ON C3

Mall brands of the aughts seek to show their relevance

FASHION FROM **C1**

adulthood may be giving the brands a second look, thanks to a wave of publicity about their updates from fashion publications including GQ and Refinery 29. Time has helped, too: Fashion, always cyclical, has returned to the late '90s and early 2000s aesthetic, which capitalizes on Millennial nostalgia and Gen Z anemoia.

Victoria's Secret and J. Crew kicked off New York Fashion Week with back-to-back events that celebrated their newfound identities. And they've taken two markedly different approaches. J. Crew is invoking its classic, preppy-Americana roots to bolster its reputation; Victoria's Secret has scrambled to obscure the sins it committed for decades in the name of maintaining its signature "fantasy."

The question for both is: Can they pull it off? Their events offered a glimpse of their divergent new directions.

It's not the first time either of these brands have come back from the brink of disaster.

J. Crew made its name in the catalogue business before expanding to physical retail locations. It faltered financially in the 1990s, when the New York Times mused that its catalogue's "carefree models in lemon-colored turtlenecks" were "far removed from the messy world of junk bonds and leveraged buyouts facing the retailer," which sold its majority stake to a private investment firm in 1997. J. Crew bounced back in the early 2010s, when Lyons lent high-fashion credibility to the mainstream brand and Obama wore the name on trips to both "The Tonight Show" and to South Africa.

But in 2020, after poor sales of clothes that many thought had become too trend-driven in recent years, J. Crew filed for bankruptcy. Since then, J. Crew has changed its strategy, appointing Brendon Babenzien (formerly of Supreme) to head its menswear department and Olympia Gayot to lead womenswear. Babenzien also co-founded the classics-with-a-streetwear-twist menswear label Noah. His hire at J. Crew, then, gave a preppy, old-school label license to play around with preppy, old-school motifs. Gayot, meanwhile, has imparted to the brand some of the relaxed, elegantly minimalist style that's made her an Instagram star known for mixing oversize masculine silhouettes and dainty feminine touches.

Part of J. Crew's reinvention has been to look into its archive for classic, timeless pieces that were wardrobe staples in its catalogue days. That approach was apparent Tuesday in its party's decor, which prominently displayed its vintage catalogue photos.

J. Crew's event seemed to ask: Remember the good old days? Remember sun-washed colors and cozy sweaters and sturdy, pleasantly rumpled khakis?

It was warm and humid. Guests' floaty dresses clung to their backs. The ice under the clams and oysters was melting at a concerning pace. Channeling J. Crew's preppy vibes, guests mugged for Instagrams by a vintage white Land Rover surrounded by piles of hardcover books and a small wooden boat with a canoe paddle. Joshua Jackson — a catalogue model for J. Crew in 1998, now a salt-and-pepper-bearded friend of the brand — posed there with his wife, Jodie Turner-Smith. Other VIPs included actor Adam Scott, singer Leon Bridges, model Ella Emhoff (stepdaughter of Vice President Harris), and J. Crew royalty: Wadle, former CEO Mickey Drexler, Babenzien (in denim shorts and a tie) and Gayot (in a white suit and sequined bikini top).

The only interruption to all the earnest nostalgia came from the Strokes, who also played at J. Crew's fall Fashion Week party last year.

"It's been real. It's also been a little fake," mused frontman Julian Casablancas from the stage toward the end of their set. After a moment he added, "I'm *kidding*."

Maggie Bullock, author of the new J. Crew history "The Kingdom of Prep," attended the party. She wondered "what the Strokes' early-aughts selves would think if you told them that, circa 2023, they'd be playing a J. Crew party." She also wondered whether the privately held company had won back enough customers to be profitable.

Looking around the party, Bullock tried to pin down the "new J. Crew" look and failed. "I'm sure they dressed a lot of the people there, but it was a little hard to discern," Bullock said by phone afterward. That said: "What they're leaning into right now is the quietness of, basically, good taste and great tailoring. They're riffing on their own classics. These are not things that stand out in a crowd by their very nature."

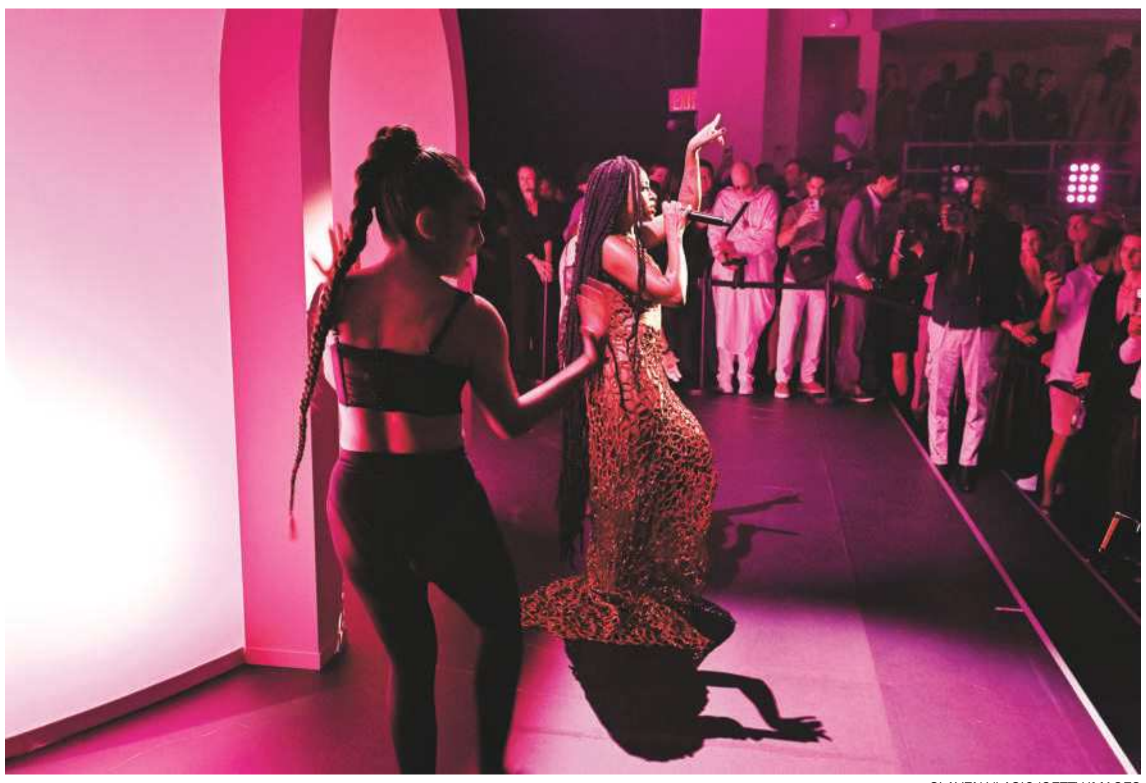
Emily Sundberg has written about J. Crew on her business Substack Feed Me. "The men's stuff impresses me right now," she said in a phone interview. She's not entirely clear on who the women's side has in mind with its designs, though she thinks some of the suiting is "beautiful."

"Is it a Tribeca mom?" Sundberg asks. "Is it a young, cool person who hangs out downtown and understands style? Is it somebody who's going to work? Is it for somebody who's staying home?"

At the Manhattan Center on Wednesday night, Victoria's Secret hinted, not so subtly, that it had changed. The dark event hall was decorated with pairs of wings, a Victoria's Secret staple — but in earthier tones, instead of the iridescent or psychedelic vibes of yore. Nearby, screens flashed vague feminist phrases such as "Protective armor" and "Female form," then switched to black-and-white video clips of oysters being shucked, garments being loomed, an Indigenous person performing a ceremonial dance.

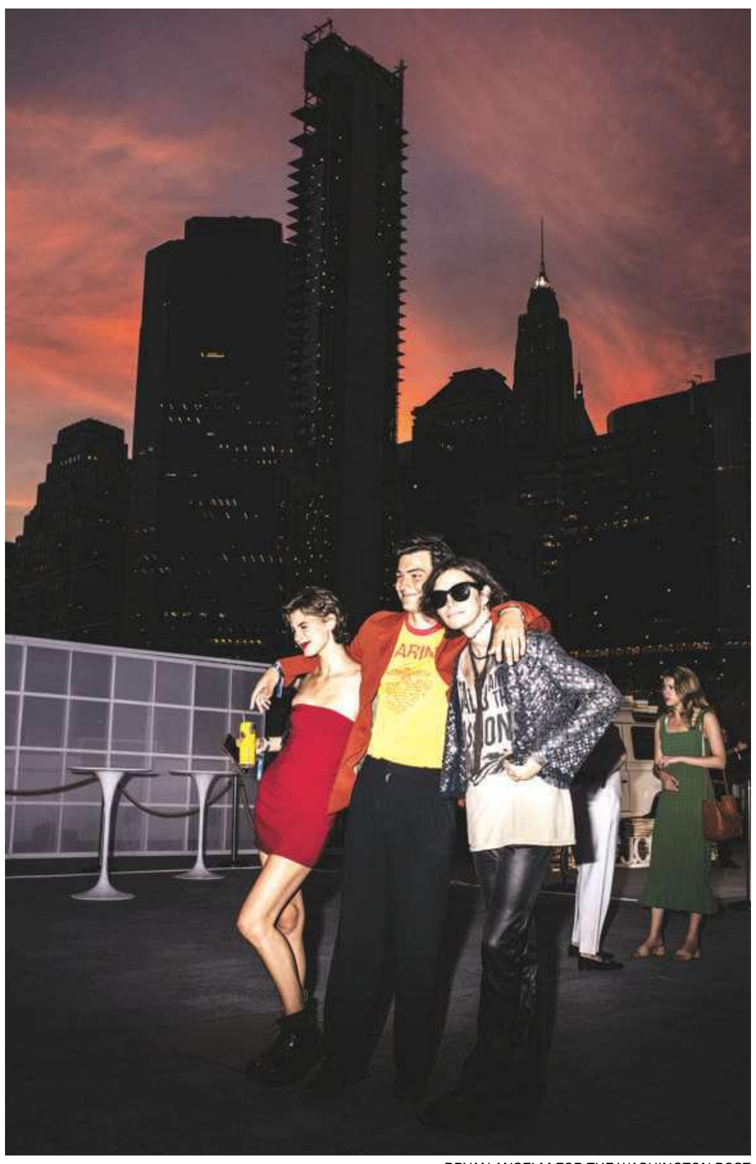
Back in 1982, the New York Times described the Victoria's Secret catalogue as featuring models "photographed in lady-like poses against elegant backgrounds." By 1991, The Washington Post's James Morgan noted that Victoria's Secret had "refined the notion of lingerie as fashion better than anyone else. The idea was then revelatory: that what was under your clothes should be as colorful, intricate, and trendy, too."

Like J. Crew, Victoria's Secret is also under new leadership; it divorced from parent company L Brands in the wake of the controversy that essentially killed the Victoria's Secret Fashion Show. In 2019, when the brand had lost relevance to other companies that presented themselves as more feminist, diverse and unfussy, former L Brands executive Ed Razek told Vogue that Victoria's Secret would not be changing its approach to underwear even as the rest of the industry



SLAVEN VLASIC/GETTY IMAGES

ABOVE: Singer Goyo, center, performs at a Victoria's Secret event at the Manhattan Center on Wednesday in New York. BELOW: Attendees at a J. Crew party at the Rooftop at Pier 17 in New York on Tuesday.



BRYAN ANSELM FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

"What they're leaning into right now is the quietness of, basically, good taste and great tailoring."

Maggie Bullock, author of a book about J. Crew

radically reformed to be more inclusive of different sizes and identities. Backlash ensued (to put it mildly), and the annual TV spectacle was canceled.

Additionally, Victoria's Secret has found it hard to scrub the stain of Jeffrey Epstein's association with the brand, which was the subject of the recent documentary series "Victoria's Secret: Angels and Demons." In the mid-1990s, Epstein, a friend and adviser of the brand's then-CEO Leslie Wexner, allegedly presented himself as a model recruiter for Victoria's Secret to assault women. Wexner stepped down in 2020. Victoria's Secret declined to comment for this article.

At the party Wednesday, the lingerie label introduced what seems to be its replacement for the fashion show: A short, four-segment video presentation on an IMAX-size screen debuted four collections by designers based in Tokyo, London, Bogotá and Lagos, Nigeria, with the help of beloved models of the past (Naomi Campbell, Gigi Hadid, Candice Swanepoel) and up-and-comers with looks and physiques decidedly outside of Victoria's narrower historical tastes. Among them: freckled model Adwoa Aboah; Sora Choi, who has substantial tattoos all across her torso and hips; transgender model Valentina Sampaio; and plus-size models Devyn Garcia and Paloma Elsesser.

Victoria's Secret touted the film, titled "The Tour," as "a reimagination of the iconic fashion show." Notably, not one of the collections delivered the traditional bra-and-panties combination that built the Victoria's Secret Fashion Show into a juggernaut. The models wore pants, coats, leggings, gowns and crop tops.

Colombian designer Melissa Valdés Duque clothes her Victoria's Secret models in see-through dresses woven in random, chaotic patterns to resemble scars on human skin — in an homage to the stories that scars tell about our lives. And Japan's Jenny Fax delivers arguably the most effective revamp: She covers a few of her models in layer upon layer of lacy bras and panties and "xoxo" tape, while others wear bubble dresses molded from semi-firm material that gives them soft bellies, love handles and small, humble breasts.

It is the models' bodies that deliver the clear thesis statement of the reinvention. The Victoria's Secret Fashion Show will live on in popular memory, whether Victoria's Secret likes it or not, as a spectacle of winks, blown kisses and blown-out pageant-queen hair. With its "Tour" film, Victoria's Secret acknowledges — finally — real skin with its bumps and lumps and folds. Bodies in pregnancy, in postpartum, in a multiple-decade range of ages. Hair in various stages of air-dry, not a glossy hot-roller curl for miles.

Not everyone is happy, of course. (How could they be?) Just look at the feedback on Victoria's Secret fan accounts on Instagram, where you'll catch comments such as, "This isn't sexy" and "I want '00 Victoria's Secret back." Some people just want the past.

Victoria's Secret, meanwhile, is trying to adapt to the present and future, which seems to belong to shapewear. "Because they know if they don't," Sundberg says, "then Skims is going to win that game."

Judkis reported from Washington.

What to know about Springsteen's postponed shows and peptic ulcer disease

BY **HERB SCRIBNER, KELYN SOONG AND BEN BRASCH**

Bruce Springsteen has postponed all performances with the E Street Band for September as he undergoes treatment for peptic ulcer disease, the legendary rock singer announced.

Springsteen, 73, shared a note on his Instagram page, telling fans that a concert scheduled for Thursday in Syracuse, N.Y., will be moved. He noted that medical advisers said he should postpone his September shows as he undergoes treatment for the disease.

"Over here on E Street, we're heartbroken to have to postpone these shows," he wrote Wednesday. "We'll be back to pick these shows up and then some. Thank you for your understanding and support. We've been having a blast at our U.S. shows and we're looking forward to more great times. We'll be back soon."

His website listed the postponed shows, which included performances in New York, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, Ohio and D.C. Those with tickets to the upcoming shows will be notified about rescheduled dates.

Springsteen also canceled shows in March and August

Springsteen will have a two-month break to recover from his symptoms, as the tour does not have any October dates planned, and will probably pick up in November with performances in Canada.

KYLE GUSTAFSON FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Bruce Springsteen, right, and Max Weinberg perform in Washington in 2016. Springsteen postponed his September shows.

Springsteen has been on tour for the first time since February 2017. The tour drew controversy for steep ticket prices, which were linked to Ticketmaster's dynamic-pricing system. In all, there are more than 60 dates planned across 51 locations.

In March, Springsteen canceled shows in Connecticut, Ohio and New York because of an unspecific illness. He also slashed a pair of shows in Philadelphia in August, citing illness. Springsteen, however, returned for three shows in New Jersey last week.

What is peptic ulcer disease?

Peptic ulcer disease is a break in the lining of the stomach or intestine caused by increased acid, said Judith Kim, a gastroenterologist at NYU Langone Health. It affects about 5 to 10 percent of the population.

Peptic ulcer disease can range from mild to severe with life-threatening complications since ulcers can bleed, perforate and cause scarring to block the outlet of the stomach, said Michael Goggins, professor of pathology, medicine and oncology at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.

Peptic ulcer disease is caused by bacteria

The main causes are a bacteria called *Helicobacter pylori* and use of nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) such as aspirin, ibuprofen and naproxen, experts said. Some steroids and blood thinners have also been associated with ulcers, Kim said.

The bacteria alters the stomach's protective mechanisms against acid to make the stomach more susceptible to acid-related injury, said Amy Oxentenko, a gastroenterologist at the Mayo Clinic.

Most people are infected with H. pylori, usually from water, when they are young, said James Hartman Frank, a gastroenterologist with MedStar Health in Washington. "It just takes a long time for it to form into an ulcer," he said.

Smoking and alcohol can be risk factors for peptic ulcer disease, experts said.

Stress does not cause ulcers, as many people commonly believe, though "we do see stress ulcers in patients who have been in critical care units for prolonged periods," Kim said.

The incidence of peptic ulcer disease increases with age, she said. "There is similar prevalence in men and women, though stomach ulcers tend to be more common in women and ulcers in the intestine more common in men," Kim said.

Peptic ulcer symptoms include pain and nausea

Peptic ulcers often cause abdominal pain and nausea, as well as discomfort when eating, according to the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases. People can also lose their appetite and weight, and may see blood in their stool if it moves down through the intestine, experts said.

The "peptic" in peptic ulcers refers to the disease having to do with pepsin, a digestive enzyme, Frank said. Peptic ulcers can cause pain that can include the "worst indigestion"; patients with pain usually feel the sensation at the bottom of their breastplate.

A majority of peptic ulcers do not cause symptoms, some studies have shown, said Scott Gabbard, section head for the center of neurogastroenterology and mobility at the Cleveland Clinic. "Only 30 percent of patients with ulcers have those classic symptoms, and 70 percent of patients with ulcers may not even know they have them," he said.

"Sometimes maybe you just have anemia, you've lost some blood quietly, you don't know why, and it turns out that the ulcer is bleeding and causing problems that way," Goggins said.

Antibiotics, and more can treat a peptic ulcer

A physician may suggest tests to detect H. pylori, and if it is present, would treat it with a two-week course of antibiotics and try to lower acid levels, Frank said, typically with a proton pump inhibitor, which decrease acid produced in the stomach.

Ulcers without H. pylori are usually treated with proton pump inhibitors. "The usual duration is about two months, and they have a very, very high healing rate," Gabbard said.

Surgery is rarely recommended for peptic ulcers, experts said.

Avoiding NSAIDs or other irritants such as tobacco and alcohol help recovery, Kim said.

People with persistent and severe symptoms such as bleeding should get an endoscopy, which allows a physician to examine the upper digestive system for ulcers. They would "try to seal it with various endoscopic devices to prevent or stop active bleeding," Goggins said.

How to prevent peptic ulcers?

Some ulcers can be prevented by avoiding NSAIDs or by treating H. pylori infection early, before ulcers develop, Kim said. Avoiding smoking and alcohol can also help to prevent ulcer disease.

Diet does not play a major role

Diet plays a minor role in peptic ulcer disease, Gabbard said. "There's really no data that a lot of the things associated with ulcers actually have any cause-or-effect relationship with ulcers: spices, acidic foods, coffee — they're not associated, interestingly," he said.

Springsteen said on Tim McGraw's new show, "Beyond the Influence Radio," on Apple Music that he takes his diet rather seriously since it helps him stay on-stage longer.

"The biggest thing is diet, diet, diet," Springsteen said. "I don't eat too much, and I don't eat bad food, except for every once in a while when I want to have some fun for myself. So I think anybody that's trying to get in shape, exercise is always important, of course, but diet is 90 percent of the game."

A parenthood fable, with all of its monstrousness

TV REVIEW FROM **C1**

parenthood was due for an ambitious, contemporary treatment.

Enter Apple TV Plus's new series "The Changeling," based on the 2017 novel by Victor LaValle, which starts off feeling like exactly this: a brilliant, sprawling, multigenerational treatise on fatherhood and motherhood that doubles as a fairy tale with room for the internet — and its trolls.

Starring LaKeith Stanfield and Clark Backo, the show (which premieres Friday) follows Stanfield's Apollo Kagwa, a quiet rare-books dealer living in Queens. After witnessing the steely benevolence with which Emma (Backo), a librarian, persuades a homeless patron to leave his bags with her for safekeeping, he falls hard for her and pesters her for a date until she finally agrees. This is coded as rather sweet, but because "The Changeling" shows Apollo's father, Brian (Jared Abrahamson), doing much the same to his mother, Lillian (Alexis Louder), back during the garbage strike in New York, the parallels between these love stories acquire an ominous cast.

To what end, you might ask. Is the idea that Apollo, despite barely knowing his father, is replicating his mistakes? (What happened to his father, by the way? Is he evil, as suggested by a scene in which a young Apollo dreams his long-lost father shows up at his door masked, blowing smoke? Why did his parents part?) By season's end, we have answers for some of these basic plot questions but none for the cosmic ones.

What follows will sound like a spoiler but is almost entirely lifted from the official trailer: Emma takes off for Brazil, where she encounters an old crone (Teca Pereira) who tells her to make three wishes and warns her they'll come true whenever the string she has tied around Emma's wrist breaks. Emma tells Apollo about this encounter when they reunite, and he — joking that he's the god Apollo — cuts the string.

They marry, Emma gets pregnant, and Apollo happily totes their adorable baby, Brian, around town while she descends into what seems at first like fairly standard postpartum depression.

The show takes on the poetic morass of feelings parents and children have for each other while oscillating between two challenging registers. One is fine-grained social realism of the sort I associate with Hulu's "Fleishman Is in Trouble," which used multiple perspectives on the same events to capture something sour, nuanced and true about a certain kind of aspirational couple living in New York. The other is fantasy horror.

"The Changeling" is exquisite — riveting, precise, unspeakably devastating — in the former mode. In the latter, it drifts close to disaster, piling up symbols and allusions, references and metacommentary, until the viewer, lost in a sea of explanations, starts to drown. The result is preachy and baffling in ways reminiscent of Alex Garland's 2022 film "Men."

The horror angle had enormous promise. The show's title refers to a legendary creature left in the place of a baby that's been abducted (perhaps by fairies or trolls). The recipes for recognizing one are grim. You might suspect the thing in your care is a changeling if it's sickly or deformed. Maybe it eats too much or does strange things when alone. In some traditions, the things left behind are said to be

CHRISTOS KALOHORIDIS/APPLE TV PLUS

Clark Backo stars in "The Changeling," which switches back and forth between social realism and fantasy horror.

fairies. In some traditions, to get your human child back from its captors, you have to make the changeling scream.

That's rich terrain for a modern-day fable about parenting generally — or for a historically informed allegory about the abduction of Black children in particular. For what counts as a "real" baby. For how perversely a story about parental love could provoke parents to murder their children.

Stanfield and Backo deliver extraordinary performances at the border between the show's registers, where horror, realism and the internet touch. I do want to be clear about that: "The Changeling" offers some of the most effective horror I've ever seen. The show's casual, grounded, workaday realism augments the nightmare; the contrast between those registers, whenever they meet, is sharp. Totally arresting. But as the protagonists' quests weaken their connection to that concrete world, the show's stakes start to scatter, too, as if pulverized by too many competing symbolic operations.

Here's an example: I'd assumed the series was about Black fatherhood — as filtered through Black sonhood, to be sure, but with particular and urgent interest in Apollo's secondhand experience of his partner's PPD (and other complicated, ugly feelings a mother might feel toward her child). Stanfield delivers a sympathetic, textured and tortured performance along exactly these lines, but at a certain point the show starts treating Emma as a prophet and Apollo as benighted for daring to doubt her. "You don't see," Emma says to Apollo, looking hunted and regal and correct. "But you will."

Alas, we do not.

I'm not sure why. This is an adaptation, and in the novel, we *do* see — sort of. Basic plot questions get answered. The story resolves. We find out what happened to the baby, and why. Not so here. No fairy tale logic materializes to explain the show's events. Its early, comparatively skillful handling of information — interlacing storylines from different timelines as well as dreams, legends and nightmares — achieved interesting resonances without sacrificing clarity.

But by the end, the plot is more muddle than magic. Is the villain misogyny? Racism? Hubris? Vanity? The internet? A changeling *represents*. It can be an allegory for so many things: medieval poverty that necessitated reframing the additional mouth to feed as evil, the parental impulse to disown (or murder) one's children rather than recognize their defects ... but what if a changeling is just a changeling? Fairy tales usually open out, their outsize symbols gesturing toward something bigger, but one gets the impression here that the larger questions are being repackaged and shrunk, subordinated so as to fit (and feed) the legend.

And so, while the series pelts the viewer with grandiloquent "revelations" about matters we didn't think to wonder about — many delivered via only semi-comprehensible side quests — it withholds the core answers it taught us to expect. We're treated to a robust account of how underground mole-people built their infrastructure but never learn (for example) what Emma's third wish was.

There are so many brilliant ingredients here, so much this show could say — and almost does, in storylines such as the elder Lillian's (played by Adina Porter) — about parenting and failure and heartbreak. About the lovely monstrousness of children. About paranoia, suspicion and fear. About how you always end up, as a parent, in a fairy tale yourself: rowing a metaphorical boat, hunting for a metaphorical cave, trying to become the kind of person who could raise the kind of child you didn't get to be.

There are shows you want to love. There are shows you want to hate. And then there are shows that dazzle you early on with their beauty, their mastery, their confidence. And one day — suddenly and without explanation — they seem different. Diminished. Odd. Just a little bit wrong. As if a fairy abducted the perfect thing they were shaping up to be and left something else in their place.

The Changeling (8 episodes) premieres Friday on Apple TV Plus with three episodes. New episodes will stream weekly.

New leader at Center Stage in Baltimore

BALTIMORE FROM **C1**

"I've been on Broadway. I've had all these buckets that are separate, and right now I'm in Boston, I'm teaching at Harvard," Walker-Webb said. "Like all these different, separate buckets of who I am. And for once, I'm going to be able to fuse it together. And that's the thing that's exciting."

Center Stage, like many American theater companies, went through a tumultuously uncertain period during the pandemic shutdowns, but it has begun to stabilize, according to Adam Frank, who took over as the theater's managing director in December. He said the staff is holding steady now at about 50 positions, with no plans for cuts.

"It's definitely a challenging time to begin as a leader in the theater," Frank said. "And you know, Baltimore Center Stage is not going to go away. The next couple of years are going to continue to be challenging for us. But more and more bright things are starting to outnumber the hard things, and that will continue."

Walker-Webb said he plans to hit the ground running, with a listening tour of the city, in an effort to bring the company to the disparate neighborhoods of Baltimore — and to bring those neighborhoods more vibrantly under Center Stage's roof on North Calvert Street.

"I think that Baltimore is strategically poised to be the poster child for how a community can deeply engage with the arts," he said, "and how the art can really be listening to its community."

When celebrities split, 'speculative narratives' swirl

BY JANAY KINGSBERRY AND SONIA RAO

It didn't take long for news of Joe Jonas and Sophie Turner's divorce to turn ugly.

News began swirling Sunday that Jonas had retained a divorce lawyer. By Tuesday, the pop singer had filed paperwork in Florida's Miami-Dade County stating that his relationship with the actress is "irretrievably broken." And by Wednesday, a hoard of tabloids and internet sleuths had spun a web of theories about the couple's marital woes — citing anonymous sources, past interviews, paparazzi photos and social media posts as "clues" of trouble.

Reports became so dizzying that the pair broke their silence Wednesday, releasing a joint statement on the divorce: "There are many speculative narratives as to why but, truly this is a united decision and we sincerely hope that everyone can respect our wishes for privacy for us and our children."

Such "speculative narratives" are an unfortunate side effect of how public obsession with celebrity manifests online. Multiple tabloids, including TMZ and the Daily Mail, cited anonymous sources to characterize Turner, 27, as a partygoer who felt trapped in her marriage and wanted to live out her youth. Meanwhile, Jonas, 34, was painted as a dutiful father, solely caring for their two young children even as his band, the Jonas Brothers, is on tour.

Some have speculated about who was making these allegations, while others have sympathized with Turner — further highlighting an era in celebrity breakups where intense fan bases, blind items and unsealed court documents are used to sway and control public opinion.

"We have a long history of developing factions in celebrity culture fandoms," said Erin Meyers, a professor at Oakland University in Rochester, Mich., who has studied celebrity culture. "Getting us angry is a surefire way to get us to click on things and engage with things, and so that, I think, relates to and bleeds into celebrity culture."

But some members of the public have become too savvy for alleged spin and clickbait strategies.

"I think I'm supposed to gather from all the carefully placed headlines that she's a partier and thus a bad mom, while he is the hero dad making sacrifices," Jezebel's former editor in chief Laura Bassett wrote in a viral post on X (formerly Twitter), "but no one seems to question why he at 30 decided to marry a 23-year-old and thought she'd suddenly turn into a tradwife."

Others similarly came to Turner's defense by digging up an interview she gave early on in the pandemic on Conan O'Brien's talk show: "I'm an introvert, I'm a homebody," she said in April 2020. "If I could stay at home all day I would, so this is great for me."

The media's focus on Turner's parenting and purported nightlife interests show how the archetypal role of mothers is far more entrenched in society than the role of the fathers, said Sara Petersen, a writer and author of "Momfluenced: Inside The Maddening, Picture-Perfect World of Mommy Influencer Culture."

> *"We still presume a good mother to adhere to mid-century gender norms, and we will accept pretty much anything from a father."*
> **Sara Petersen,** author of "Momfluenced"

"We still presume a good mother to adhere to mid-century gender norms, and we will accept pretty much anything from a father," she said.

"Like even if she does like to party ... that has nothing to do with her ability to care for a child, make a child feel safe and secure and loved, and provide for a child. It has absolutely nothing to do with her mothering capabilities," Petersen added. "Nor does the assertion that [Jonas] is a homebody have anything to do with his capabilities as a parent."

Turner and Jonas began dating in 2016 and married during a small Las Vegas ceremony after the Billboard Music Awards in May 2019. They share two daughters, born in July 2020 and July 2022, whom they have famously shielded from the public eye — a decision that Turner has had to justify to the public and implore her followers to respect, highlighting the outsize scrutiny moms face, Petersen said.

"It points to the need for her to defend her actions and to explain herself, and I'm not sure that would be the same for a man in that position," she said. "It falls to mothers to justify their parenting identities and choices in a way that it doesn't for fathers."

Like Turner, other celebrity women have endured years of scrutiny and speculation about their love lives and parenting choices. An especially nasty narrative spread in the aftermath of Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie's divorce, with tabloids reporting as recently as last year that sources close to Pitt accused Jolie of launching a "smear campaign" against him with claims of physical abuse.

The advent of digital media brought a shift in celebrity culture as gossip blogs started to emerge in the early and mid-2000s — and women felt the

AMY SUSSMAN/GETTY IMAGES

Joe Jonas this week filed for divorce from Sophie Turner. The possible reasons for the split have been the subject of online gossip.

brunt of that change, said Meyers, whose books and research articles examine the intersection of celebrity culture and the media.

Meyers said a common thread in these celebrity stories are the bigger questions it raises around certain social issues — from what constitutes sexual abuse in Amber Heard and Johnny Depp's case to how parents may be grappling with postpartum depression and mental health in Turner and Jonas's. (On Thursday, TMZ alleged Jonas was "less than supportive" when Turner struggled after the birth of their second child.)

"People are more willing to engage with complexities," she said. "The celebrity is just a conduit for these discussions and for people's intense feelings about particular social issues."

For Petersen, the discourse also mirrors the Depp-Heard defamation trial, in which public sentiment was weaponized to support Depp, she said. Though in Turner's case, Petersen said she's been heartened by growing commentary from the media and the public pushing back against mom-shaming narratives about the actress.

She pointed to a story in Glamour magazine that called out the "bad mom" narrative against Turner as thinly veiled misogyny.

"This does feel different in that progressive lefties are really being loud about this really quickly, which I think is interesting and good," she said. "It does feel like somewhat of a reversal of the way any sort of accusations of bad womanhood or bad motherhood usually go, which is that that narrative usually becomes the loudest one."

$500 million in grants for local news

MACARTHUR FROM **C1**

dia coverage.

Some of the gap has been filled by local and national nonprofit news organizations, such as ProPublica, the Texas Tribune and Marshall Project. Daily newspapers such as the Philadelphia Inquirer, Salt Lake Tribune and Chicago Sun-Times have also converted to nonprofit status with philanthropic support. The Sun-Times did so last year, aided by a $60 million grant from the MacArthur Foundation.

But the overall need appears to be vast. The Boston Consulting Group estimated this year that it would take about $1.75 billion to cover deficits incurred by U.S. newspapers.

MacArthur, known for its "genius" grants, organized the coalition, which includes many of the biggest names in American philanthropy, such as the Ford Foundation, Carnegie Corporation, Knight Foundation and the Sloan Foundation.

The Knight Foundation, which was started by the late newspaper barons John and James Knight, will be among the largest contributors, with a $150 million commitment. Among the smaller participants is the Archewell Foundation, which was founded by Prince Harry and Meghan, Duchess of Sussex.

Palfrey said the initiative would fund new as well as established news organizations on the local, state and national levels, with an eye toward building newsrooms in news deserts and among historically underserved communities. One of its aims is to improve newsroom diversity.

While philanthropic investment has fueled an increase in the number of news organizations, it hasn't insulated such groups from the forces of the marketplace.

The statewide Texas Tribune — a nonprofit founded in 2009 that has been a model for other news start-ups — laid off 11 percent of its staff last month, triggering new concerns about the sustainability of organizations that rely on a mix of membership subscriptions, events and charitable grants.

NPR, which receives some philanthropic support as well as a small amount of government funding, also has periodically cut back its staff, including about 100 employees, or 10 percent of its staff, in February.

Tim Franklin, who heads the local-news initiative at the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University, said the $500 million initiative could be "a game changer" for many struggling legacy and start-up outlets.

JEFF SWENSEN FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Copies of the Vindicator in Youngstown, Ohio, in 2019, when the newspaper was briefly shuttered before getting a new owner.

"It could provide tangible benefits to local news organizations in giving them a financial runway to eventual self-sustainability," he said. The size of the program also "makes a powerful statement to other potential donors and to policymakers in Washington and in statehouses that the local news crisis is a serious one for our democracy and that bold actions are required in the moment. This is eyebrow-raising commitment to this problem."

Legislators in seven states have introduced bills that would give local news operations tax incentives, such as a tax credit for a subscription to a local newspaper or a payroll tax credit for hiring journalists. However, no state had passed a tax incentive bill as of July. A bill introduced in Congress in 2021 that would give similar tax credits is also still pending.

Two states, California and New Jersey, have funded small projects that provide taxpayer money for journalists' stipends through state-funded colleges.

But Franklin said it was unrealistic to expect charitable organizations to address the scale of the news desert problem.

"There aren't enough philanthropic dollars to solve the local news crisis at the community level, and I think even the foundations understand that," he said.

Palfrey agreed, saying: "This is a down payment on the future. The need in five years will still be there. ... Our hope is this stimulates more sustainable support."

TELEVISION

TV HIGHLIGHTS

CHRISTOS KALOHORIDIS/APPLE TV PLUS

The Changeling (Apple TV Plus) Based on a novel by Victor LaValle, LaKeith Stanfield (pictured) stars as a father searching for his abducted son and missing wife through a mystical world set in New York, exploring themes including postpartum depression. *Read Lili Loofbourow's review, C1.*

Power Book IV: Force (Starz at 8) Jenard's crew tries to get revenge; Tommy tries to leverage the rivalry between Miguel and the Serbs; the Feds begin a task force with Tommy at the heart of the investigation.

Minx (Starz at 9) Doug confronts Constance, and control of Joyce's magazine begins to slip from her grasp at the Minx International launch party; Shelly and Lenny look to an unknown future.

20/20 (ABC at 9:01) Chronicling the investigation into the Gilgo Beach murders.

House Hunters (HGTV at 10) Two couples look to drop major bucks on their dream houses; in Chicago, a couple looks for a three-bedroom that will blow them away; in San Francisco, a couple wants a house that has both character and space.

Heels (Starz at 10:10) With the Condamned skyrocketing in popularity, Ace begins to lose himself to his character; the Dome readies to woo Continuum as Staci investigates the Dome's secrets.

MOVIES

The Kept Mistress Killer (Lifetime at 8) A woman's life seems perfect, with a new job and a new love interest who happens to be the CEO of her company. But things turn sour when her beau's ex-wife's dead body is found in his mansion.

Field of Dreams (BBC America at 9) "If you build it, he will come." Kevin Costner plays an Iowa farmer who hears a mysterious voice tell him to build a baseball diamond on his land. His seeming lapse of sanity pays off when the ghosts of great players start emerging from the crops to play baseball.

Sitting in Bars With Cake (Prime Video) A woman persuades her best friend, who is a baker, to bring cakes to bars for a year with the goal of meeting new people and gaining confidence.

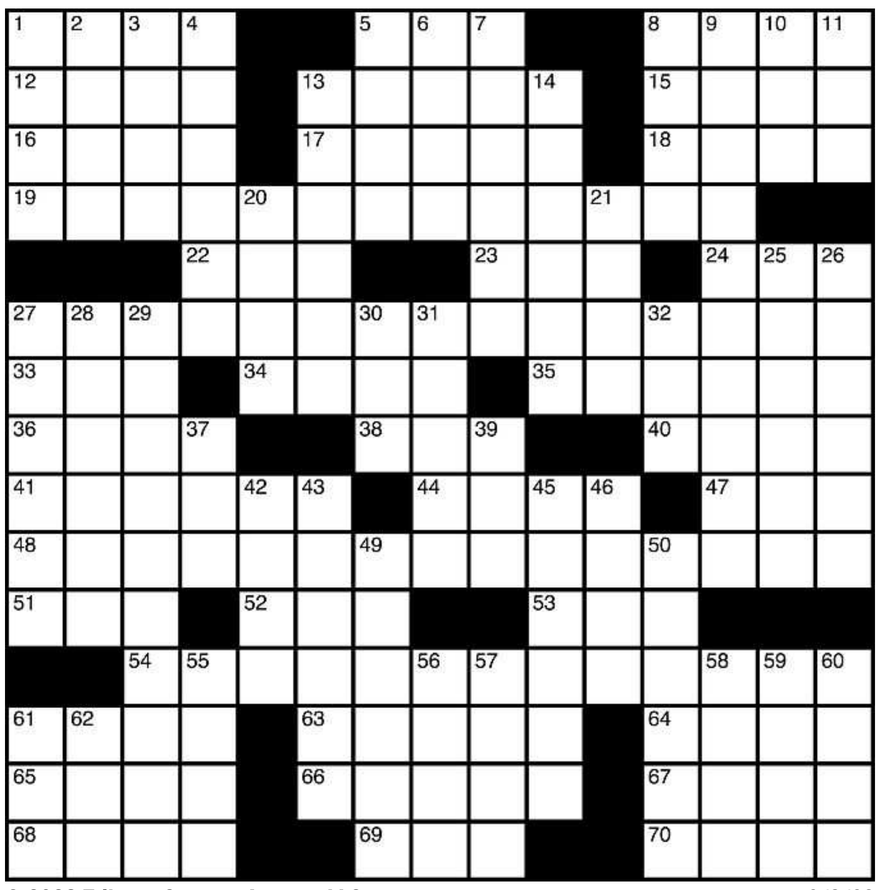
— Olivia McCormack

9/8/23	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
BROADCAST CHANNELS										
4.1 WRC (NBC)	♦ **NBC News**	♦ **Hollywood**	♦ America's Got Talent				♦ **Dateline NBC**		♦ **News**	(:35) ♦ J. Fallon
4.2 WRC (IND)	Bones		Frasier	Frasier	Frasier	Frasier	Roseanne	Roseanne	The Nanny	The Nanny
5.1 WTTG (Fox)	♦ **Fox 5**	♦ **TMZ**	♦ **WWE Friday Night SmackDown** (Live)				♦ **Fox 5 News at 10**		♦ **Fox 5 News**	♦ **The Final 5**
7.1 WJLA (ABC)	♦ Wheel	♦ Jeopardy!	♦ Will Trent		♦ 20/20				♦ **News**	♦ J.Kimmel
9.1 WUSA (CBS)	♦ **Inside Ed.**	♦ **ET**	♦ Star Trek-New Worlds		(:10) ♦ Star Trek-New Worlds		(:15) ♦ 48 Hours		♦ **9 News**	(:35) ♦ Colbert
14.1 WFDC (UNI)	♦ La rosa de Guadalupe		♦ **Eternamente amándonos**		♦ **Tierra de esperanza**		♦ **Minas de pasión**		♦ Noticias	♦ **Noticiero**
20.1 WDCA (MNTV)	♦ FamFeud	♦ Family Feud	♦ **Fox 5 News On the Plus**		♦ FamFeud	♦ FamFeud	♦ **Extra**	♦ Simpsons	♦ Chicago P.D.	
22.1 WMPT (PBS)	♦ **State Circle**		♦ Midsomer	(:40) ♦ Midsomer Murders		♦ American Experience				♦ **Week**
26.1 WETA (PBS)	♦ **PBS NewsHour**		♦ **Week**	♦ History	♦ American Masters				♦ **Amanpour and Company**	
32.1 WHUT (PBS)	♦ DW News	♦ Arts Talk	♦ Finding Your Roots		♦ Fight the Power: How		♦ Fight the Power: How		♦ BBC News	♦ Reel South
50.1 WDCW (CW)	♦ Neighbor	♦ black-ish	♦ Penn & Teller: Fool Us		♦ Inside the NFL		♦ **DC News Now**		♦ Seinfeld	♦ Seinfeld
66.1 WPXW (ION)	♦ **Basketball** Atlanta Dream at Washington Mystics				♦ **WNBA Basketball**		♦ **Basketball** Las Vegas Aces at Phoenix Mercury (Live)			
CABLE CHANNELS										
A&E	The First 48		**The First 48**		**Witness-Murder**		**Women on Death Row** (SF)		(:05) The First 48	
AMC	(5:15) Movie: White House ...		(:15) Movie: The A-Team ★★ (2010)						**101 Scariest Horror**	
Animal Planet	River Monsters		River Monsters		River Monsters		River Monsters		River Monsters	
BET	Celebrity Family Feud		Celebrity Family Feud		Payne	Payne	Celebrity Family Feud		Celebrity Family Feud	
Bravo	(6:15) Movie: The Heat ★★ (2013)				Movie: Bridesmaids ★★★ (2011)					
Cartoon Network	King/Hill	King/Hill	King/Hill	King/Hill	American	American	American	American	Rick	Rick
CNN	**E. B. OutFront** (Live)		**Cooper 360** (Live)		**The Source With** (Live)		**CNN Primetime** (Live)		**CNN Tonight** (Live)	
Comedy Central	(:10) Office	(:45) Office	(:20) The Office		(:55) Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	South Park	South Park
Discovery	(6:30) **Gold Rush-Res.**		**Gold Rush-Res.**		(:10) **Hoffman Family Gold**		(:10) **Outback Opal Hunters**		(:10) Gold Rush-Res.	
Disney	Raven	Raven	Movie: The Slumber Party (2023)			(:35) Villains	The Villains	Bizaardvark	Bizaardvark	Hailey
E!	(6:15) Movie: John Wick		(:15) Movie: John Wick: Chapter 2 ★★★ (2017)						Movie: John Wick: Chapter ...	
ESPN	**2023 U.S. Open Tennis** Men's Second Semifinal (Live)						**SportsCenter** (Live)		**SportsCenter** (Live)	
ESPN2	**Countdown**	**College Football** Illinois at Kansas (Live)						NFL Live		30 for 30
Food Network	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	**Diners, Drive**	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive
Fox News	**The Ingraham Angle** (Live)		**Jesse Watters** (Live)		**Hannity** (Live)		**Gutfeld!**		**Fox News at Night** (Live)	
Freeform	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	**The 700 Club**	
FX	WelcomeTo	(:40) Welcome to Wrexham		WelcomeTo	WelcomeTo	WelcomeTo	WelcomeTo	(:55) Welcome to Wrexham		WelcomeTo
Hallmark	(6:00) Movie: Love in the Gr...		Movie: Coyote Creek Christmas (2021)				Golden Girls	Golden Girls	Golden Girls	Golden Girls
Hallmark M&M	Movie: The More Love Grows (2023)				Movie: Guiding Emily (2023) (P)				Movie: A Lifelong Love	
HBO	Movie	(:45) Movie: Dawn of the Planet of the Apes ★★★ (2014)					Movie: Black Mass ★★★ (2015)			
HGTV	Dream Home	Dream Home	Dream Home	Dream Home	**Dream Home**	Dream Home	**House Hunters**		Hunters	Hunters
History	Ancient Aliens		Ancient Aliens		**Ancient Aliens**		(:05) Ancient Aliens		(:05) Ancient Aliens	
Lifetime	Rizzoli & Isles		Movie: The Kept Mistress Killer (2023) (P)				(:05) Movie: Soccer Mom Madam (2021)			
MASN	**MLB Baseball** Baltimore Orioles at Boston Red Sox (Live)					**O's Xtra**	**Wall to Wall Baseball**		2023	**Sports Stars**
MSNBC	**The ReidOut** (Live)		**All In With** (Live)		**Alex Wagner Tonight** (Live)		**Last Word** (Live)		**11th Hour** (Live)	
MTV	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	**Ridiculous**	**Ridiculous**	**Ridiculous**	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous
Nat'l Geographic	To Catch a Smuggler: Peru		To Catch a Smuggler: Peru		Airport Security Peru		To Catch a Smuggler: Peru		To Catch a Smuggler: Peru	
NBC SportsNet WA	Washington	Washington	Pure Outdoor	Short List	Immortals	Outdoor	Washington	Washington	Outdoor	Short List
Nickelodeon	(6:00) Movie: Bee Movie		Movie: Minions ★★ (2015)				Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
NWSN	**On Balance**		**Cuomo**		**Dan Abrams Live** (Live)		**Banfield**		Cuomo	
PARMT	Two Men	Two Men	Movie: The Longest Yard ★★ (2005)						Movie: The Longest Yard	
Syfy	(6:00) Movie: Salt ★★★		Movie: Red ★★ (2010)					Movie: Red 2 ★★ (2013)		
TBS	Sheldon	Sheldon	Movie: Get Hard ★★ (2015)				(:05) Movie: Money Talks ★★ (1997)			
TCM	(5:45) Movie: Sweet Bird of ...		Movie: Sounder ★★★★ (1972)				Movie: Wild Boys of the Road		(:15) Movie: Boys Town	
TLC	90 Day Fiancé		**90 Day Fiancé: Before the 90 Days**				**90 Day**	90 Day: The Last Resort		90 Day
TNT	Movie	(:45) Movie: Grown Ups 2 ★ (2013)					**All Elite Wrestling**		Movie: Identity Thief ★	
Travel	Osbournes- Bel.		Osbournes- Bel.		Osbournes- Bel.		Osbournes- Bel.		Osbournes- Bel.	
TruTV	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers
TV Land	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	(:05) King	(:40) King
TV One	Cosby Show	Cosby Show	Cosby Show	Cosby Show	Cosby Show	Cosby Show	Cosby Show	Cosby Show	Cosby Show	Cosby Show
USA Network	9-1-1		9-1-1		9-1-1		9-1-1		9-1-1	
VH1	Movie	Movie: Life ★★ (1999)					Movie: All Eyez on Me ★★ (2017)			
WNC8	True Crime	Christmas	7News at 6	Paid Prog.	**SportsTalk**	**World News**	**WJLA News**	Paid Prog.	**The National Desk** (Live)	

LEGEND: Bold indicates new or live programs ♦ High Definition Movie Ratings (from TMS) ★★★★ Excellent ★★★ Good ★★ Fair ★ Poor No stars: not rated

LA TIMES CROSSWORD

By Patti Varol



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ACROSS

1 Dexterous
5 __+Zoe: fashion brand named for the founder's children
8 Grills, briefly
12 Geometric reference line
13 Former frosh
15 Prado display
16 Small pie
17 Prove useful
18 Lean
19 Matchmaker who's popular in all 50 states?
22 Credit card fig.
23 Initials for William or Kate
24 Transcript fig.
27 Barriers on the ocean floor?
33 Record producer Gotti who created the BET series "Tales"
34 Scent
35 Travels to an away match?
36 Soho stroller
38 Shaver
40 "By __!"
41 Pacific Rim nation
44 Pastoral chorus
47 Transgression
48 Tearing the felt while attempting to put spin on the ball, e.g.?
51 HST successor
52 UPC kin
53 __ carte
54 Demand from a suspicious bartender, and an apt title for this puzzle
61 Texter's hedge
63 Midwest hub
64 Plus
65 Flow slowly
66 __ friends
67 Deck chair piece
68 Honey bunch
69 Counterpart of "thx"
70 "Lonely Boy" rock band the Black __

DOWN

1 Cellular plan component
2 Prof's preparation
3 Marshmallow blackener
4 Sandal style
5 Bossa __
6 Brewpub pours
7 Affectedly elegant
8 Westernmost of the Lesser Sunda Islands
9 Yoga backbend also called Setu Bandha Sarvangasana
10 Liq. measures
11 Firm
13 Revered
14 Hybrid breaking pitch
20 __ facto
21 Genesis name
25 Musician André with four Oscars and 11 Grammys
26 Approval
27 Went down a bit
28 Gofer trip
29 Preach
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31 Gossip fodder
32 Org. headquartered at the RFK Building in D.C.
37 Lousy start?
39 OB or GYN
42 Fine spray
43 Requests from
45 Seán whose first play debuted at the Abbey Theatre
46 Dairyland structure
49 Keep from spreading
50 Fabric named for an Asian capital
55 Some sheep
56 Bluegrass legend Scruggs
57 Isn't perfect
58 Actress Fanning
59 "My stars!"
60 Ellipsis trio
61 Electric key
62 Heartache

THURSDAY'S LA TIMES SOLUTION

S	L	A	M			L	S	U		B	U	S	T	S
W	I	F	I		L	E	E	S		O	N	T	O	E
I	M	A	L	L	E	A	R	S		D	O	U	L	A
G	A	R	D	E	N	P	A	R	T	Y		B	L	M
			L	A	T				A	B	A			
S	T	A	Y		I	N	S		M	A	R	I	S	A
T	A	P			L	A	W	Y	E	R	E	D	U	P
A	B	R	A	M		I	O	U		S	A	T	C	H
G	O	O	D	E	F	F	O	R	T			A	R	I
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			S	O	S				C	P	R			
B	A	N		R	O	L	L	T	H	E	T	A	P	E
O	M	A	N	I		G	O	I	N	G	F	L	A	T
P	E	P	P	A		B	O	N	O		U	L	N	A
S	N	A	R	L		T	N	T			L	A	G	S

NICK GALIFIANAKIS FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

New neighbors kill the off-leash vibe

Carolyn Hax

Dear Carolyn: I live in a neighborhood with a lot of dogs. It's suburban and tree-lined with quiet streets where it is conducive to walking dogs on a leash. We also have a large open field with some wooded paths where people historically meet in the early mornings and on weekends, and dogs are off-leash and playing. I have been part of the off-leash party for about 15 years, and it has been problem-free.

Lately, there have been some newcomers who are walking in the fields with their dogs on a leash. It's natural that the other dogs run up to them to see whether they want to play. Some of the leashed dog owners don't mind, but others become annoyed, because their dogs are not friendly with other dogs.

How should we approach this? I usually apologize and call my dog back, but it's becoming more frequent, and I'm getting frustrated. My feeling is that if you want to walk your dog on a leash, you should stick to the road, where all dogs are leashed. If you want to walk your dog on a leash in an area where dogs run and play freely, then you shouldn't get annoyed when they want to play with your dog, especially if you know your dog is not friendly. Your thoughts?

— Dog Lover

Dog Lover: My thoughts are that you had a nice 15-year run, so be glad for it. Or train your dog better. Or implore new neighbors kindly.

You simply don't have standing to keep people from walking leashed dogs in the fields. Plus, few ways of greeting new neighbors are less welcoming than letting them know they're at fault for violating some cherished unwritten rule forged in the Golden Age they ended by showing up.

On-leashers are as entitled to the landscape as you are. As are people who fear or dislike dogs but enjoy a walk in the fields, whom you haven't mentioned and for whom unleashed dogs that aren't brought immediately to heel are a nuisance at best.

Maybe you find the other people's annoyance annoying, but put yourself in their position.

Also: If you can't or won't call off your dogs before they reach newcomers, you're creating significant stress for any walker of a leashed reactive dog. I say this as a fellow dog person who has been on both sides here: calling back my too-friendly off-leash dog and holding the leash of a fearful one. In your "natural" dogs-run-up-to-play scenario, the leash-walkers are the ones acting responsibly, not you.

I've assumed there aren't laws in your favor. If it is legally an off-leash area, then signage is your friend. Lobby for some. (And train your dog better, too.) With leash laws in force, though, there's nothing about your cause that I can back in print.

Except the concept of free play for dogs, of course. In lieu of harrumphing newcomers, take the neighborhood transformation as a cue to petition for fenced, off-leash spaces. To be fair, that process alone could fuel an advice industry — but it is the right, pro-neighbor, pro-dog thing to do regardless.

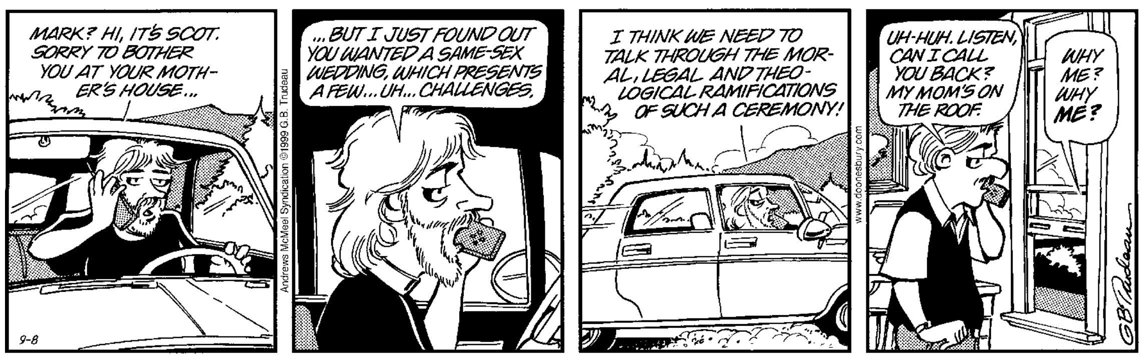
You have my complete sympathy for your sense of loss with the neighborhood change. A morning dog run in the fields sounds lovely.

But fighting a change just because you don't like it personally, without regard for what your resistance means for others, is a quick way to become an unsympathetic character in your own story. Gracious acceptance isn't just a valid path; sometimes it's the only decent one. In this case, I urge you to take it.

Write to Carolyn Hax at *tellme@washpost.com*. Get her column delivered to your inbox each morning at *wapo.st/gethax*.

Join the discussion live at noon Fridays at *washingtonpost.com/live-chats*.

CLASSIC DOONESBURY
GARRY TRUDEAU



PICKLES
BRIAN CRANE

BRIDGE

N-S VULNERABLE

NORTH (D)
♠ A J 2
♥ K 9 8 4
♦ Q 8
♣ 10 5 4 2

WEST
♠ 10 6 5
♥ Q 5 3
♦ K 7 4 2
♣ K 7 6

EAST
♠ 9 8 7 4
♥ None
♦ J 10 9 6 5 3
♣ J 9 8

SOUTH
♠ K Q 3
♥ A J 10 7 6 2
♦ A
♣ A Q 3

The bidding:

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
Pass	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
3 ♥	Pass	6 ♥	All Pass

Opening lead — ♦ 2

Even a pro golfer makes only about half of his six-foot putts. (It seems like more because the players you see on TV are the ones putting well that week.) How often would you expect an expert declarer to resolve a two-way guess for a queen?

In today's deal, West led the deuce of diamonds against six hearts. Declarer won and had to play the trumps. Since West's lead suggested four diamonds, giving East six, South judged that West was more likely to have length in trumps. So South started with the ace.

South still wasn't home; he was threatened with two club losers. But after he picked up the trumps, he took his spade tricks, then led dummy's queen of diamonds. When East followed low, South discarded a club.

West took the king and was end-played. He had to lead a club to South's A-Q or concede a ruff-sluff.

My guess is that a good declarer will locate a missing queen at least 75% of the time. Invariably, clues from the bidding or defense will guide him.

DAILY QUESTION

You hold:
♠ A J 2 ♥ K 9 8 4
♦ Q 8 ♣ 10 5 4 2

Your partner opens one diamond, you respond one heart, he bids two clubs and you try 2NT. Partner next bids three clubs. What do you say?

ANSWER: You might have raised partner's two clubs to three clubs. His third bid suggests minimum opening values with 10 minor-suit cards. He wants no part of either game or notrump. Pass. If partner holds 7 6, 6, A K 9 6 5, A J 7 6 3, any game contract will be an underdog.

— Frank Stewart

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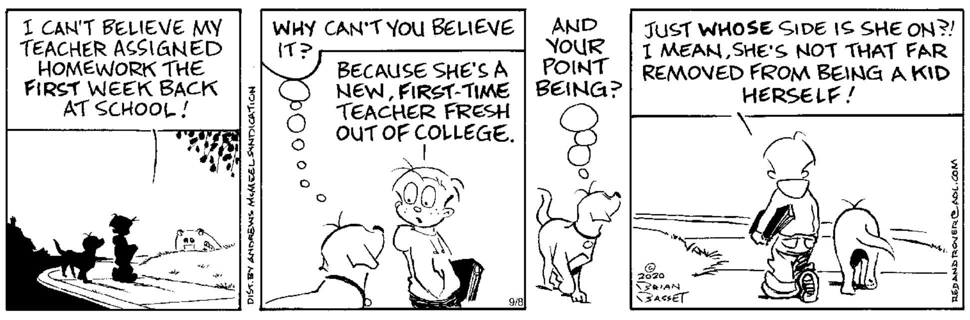
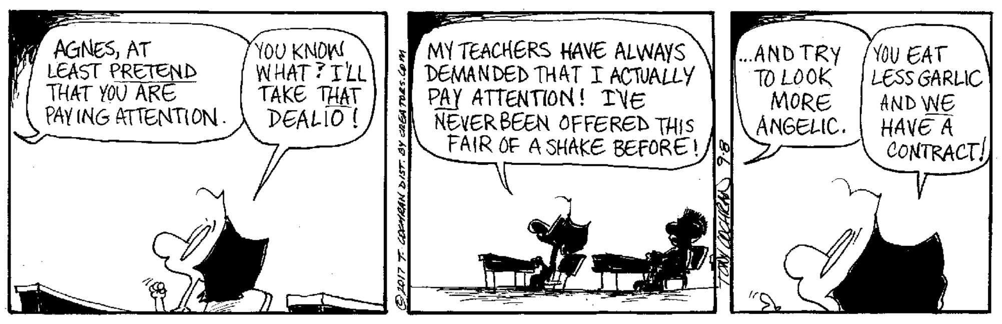
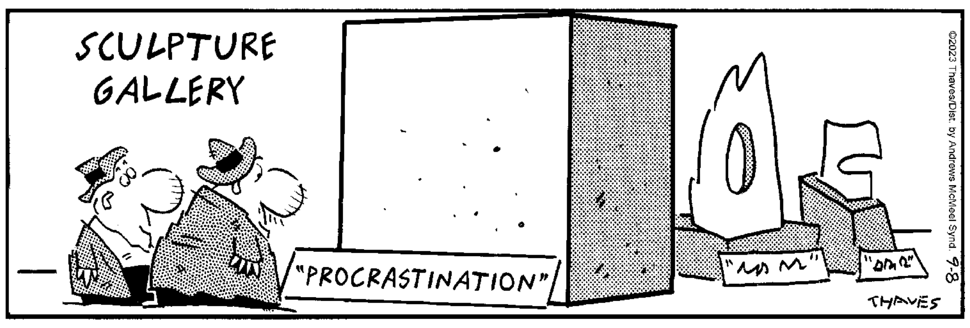
RED AND ROVER
BRIAN BASSET



AGNES
TONY COCHRAN



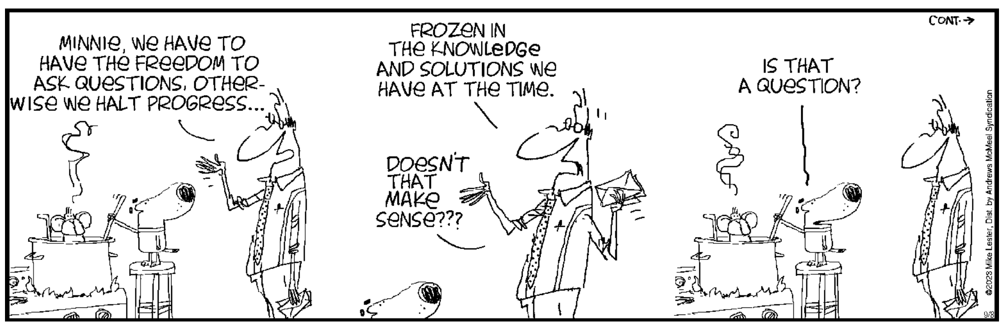
FRANK AND ERNEST
TOM THAVES



WUMO
MIKAEL WULFF & ANDERS MORGENTHALER

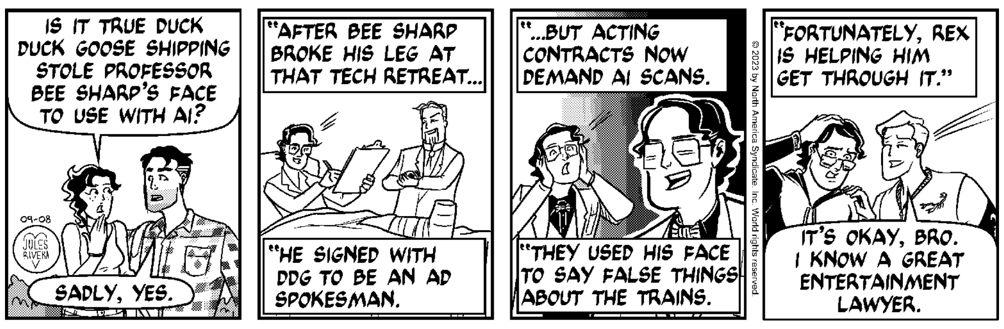
CLASSIC PEANUTS
CHARLES SCHULZ

MIKE DU JOUR
MIKE LESTER

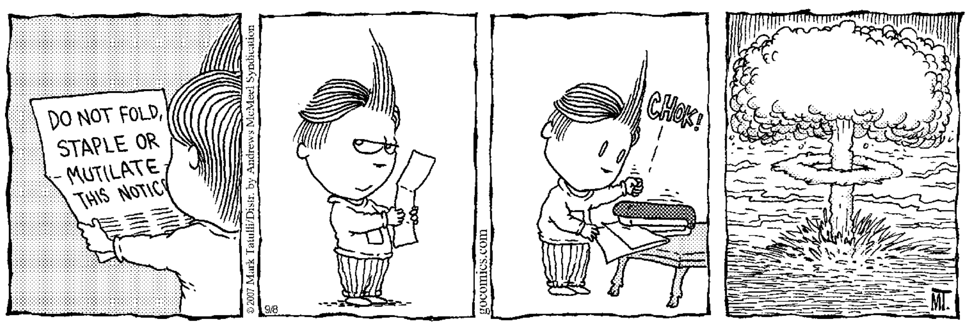


RHYMES WITH ORANGE
HILARY PRICE

MARK TRAIL
JULES RIVERA

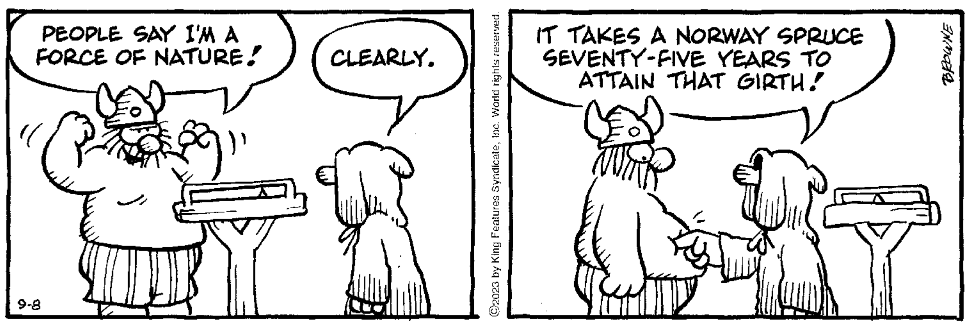


LIO
MARK TATULLI

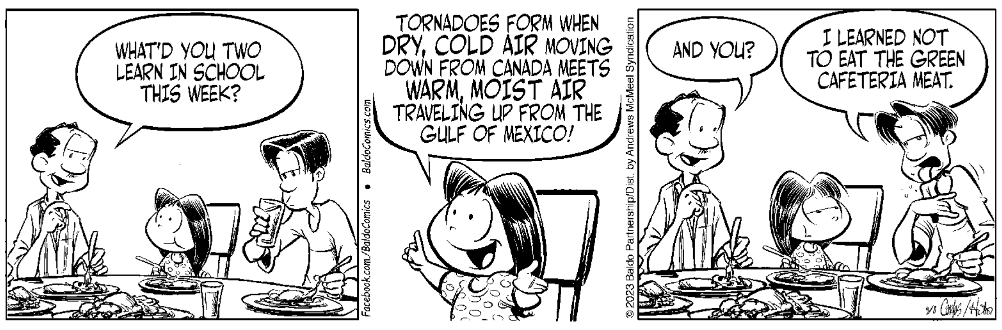


MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM
MIKE PETERS

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE
CHRIS BROWNE

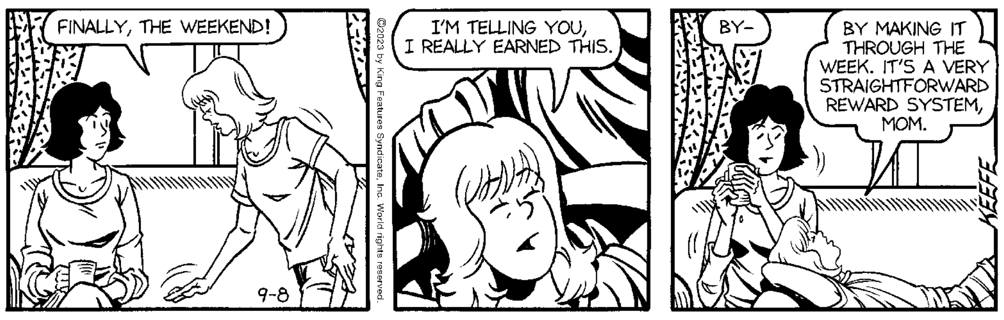


BALDO
HECTOR CANTU & CARLOS CASTELLANOS



BLONDIE
DEAN YOUNG & JOHN MARSHALL

SALLY FORTH
FRANCESCO MARCIULIANO & JIM KEEFE



SUDOKU

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

	5		7	4	8			3
				2		7	8	
	8	4						
	2	5		1				
		7		5		4		
				6		3	5	
						9	2	
	7	9		8				
2			4	7	9		3	

9/8

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

SCRABBLE GRAMS

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RACK 1: A₁ A₁ O₁ R₁ M₃ T₁ D₂ — 1st Letter Double

RACK 2: A₁ E₁ E₁ Y₄ H₄ L₁ S₁ — Triple Word Score

RACK 3: I₁ I₁ O₁ O₁ N₁ N₁ P₃

RACK 4: E₁ U₁ B₃ T₁ D₂ G₂ B₃

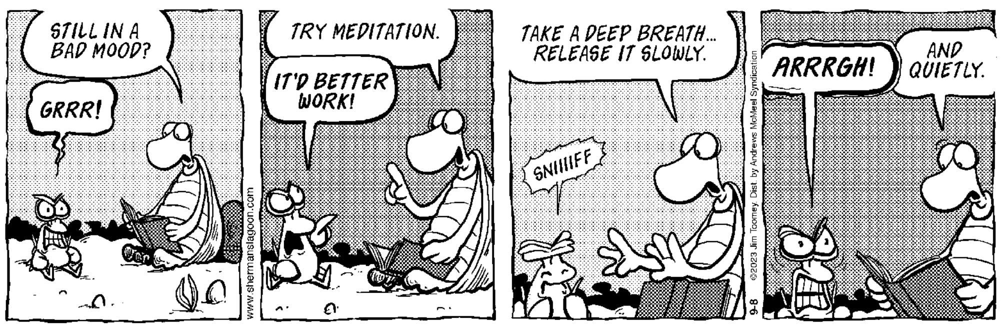
PAR SCORE 145-155
BEST SCORE 223
FOUR RACK TOTAL ____
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. Finally, 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All the words are in the Official SCRABBLE® Players Dictionary, 5th Edition. SOLUTION TOMORROW

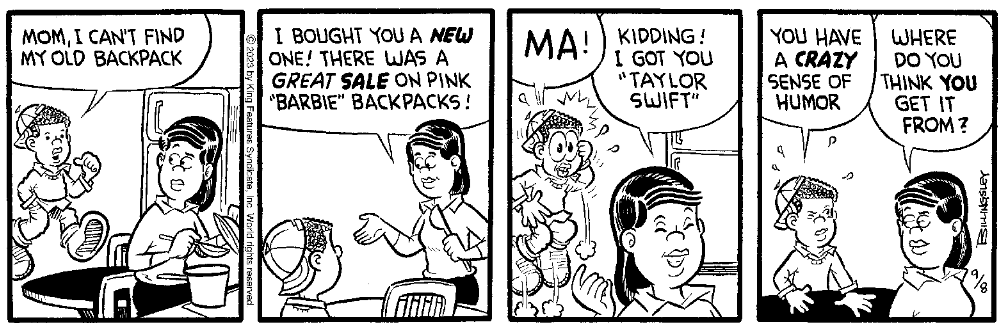
For more information on tournaments and clubs, email NASPA - North American SCRABBLE Players Association info@scrabbleplayers.org. Visit our website - www.scrabbleplayers.org. For puzzle inquiries contact scrgrams@gmail.com

09-08

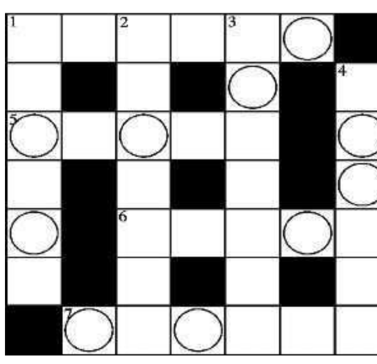
SHERMAN'S LAGOON
JIM TOOMEY



CURTIS
RAY BILLINGSLEY



JUMBLE CROSSWORDS
by David L. Hoyt



9-8-23

ACROSS

CLUE	ANSWER
1. Crushed pulp	PCEMOA
5. Man being married	RMOOG
6. In the know	RAAEW
7. Hardly, slightly	EEYLRM

DOWN

CLUE	ANSWER
1. ____ Forge	NIOPEG
2. Fee for docking	ROMOEAG
3. Examine in contrast	MPEARCO
4. Selfish, stingy	EYGERD

How to play: Complete the crossword puzzle by looking at the clues and unscrambling the answers. When the puzzle is complete, unscramble the circled letters to solve the BONUS.

BONUS

CLUE: He was the final guest ever on "The Muppet Show."

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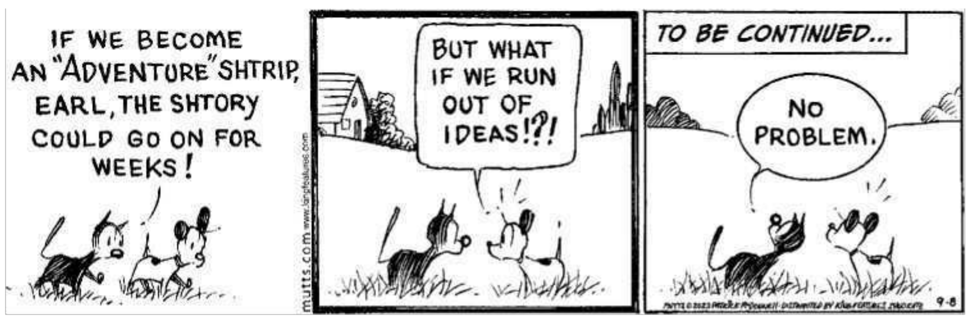
Send comments to TCA - 560 W. Grand Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60654 or DLHoyt@HoytInteractiveMedia.com

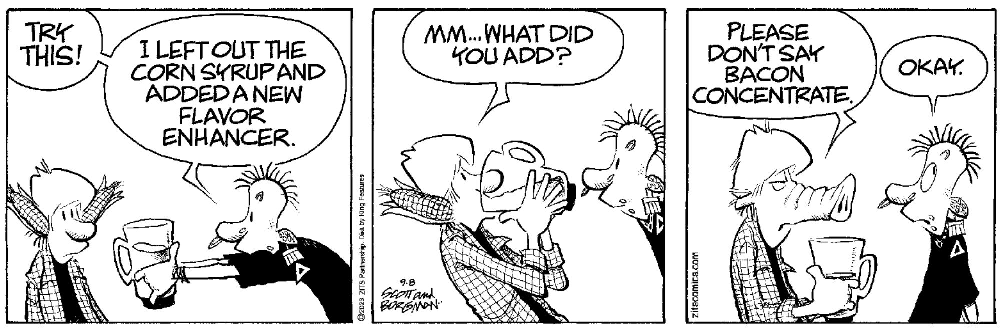
ANSWERS: 1A-Pomace 5A-Groom 6A-Aware 7A-Merely 1D-Pigeon 2D-Moorage 3D-Compare 4D-Greedy B-Roger Moore

BREWSTER ROCKIT: SPACE GUY!
TIM RICKARD

MUTTS PATRICK McDONNELL

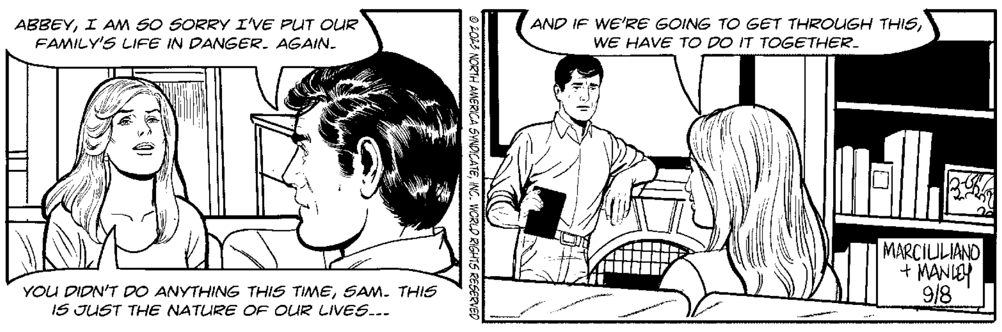


ZITS JERRY SCOTT & JIM BORGMAN



HEART OF THE CITY STEENZ

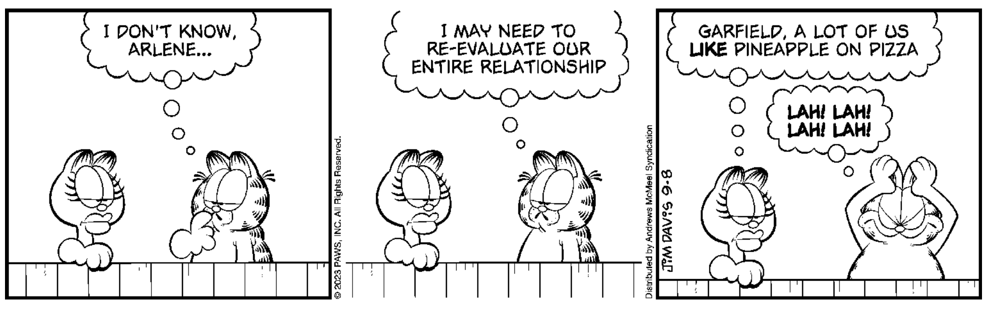
JUDGE PARKER FRANCESCO MARCIULIANO & MIKE MANLEY



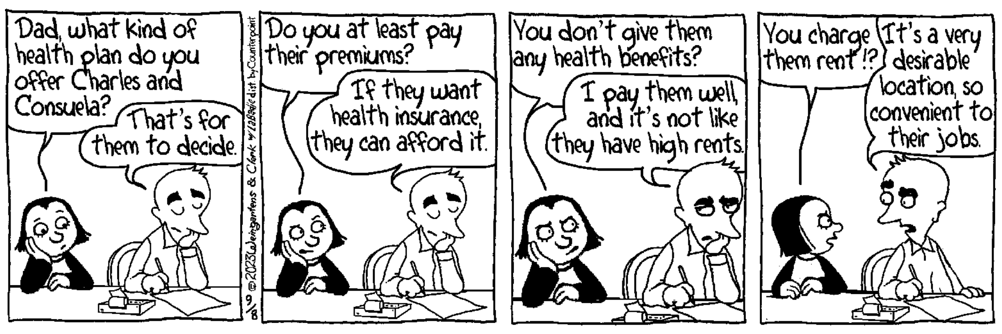
FRAZZ JEF MALLETT

CANDORVILLE DARRIN BELL

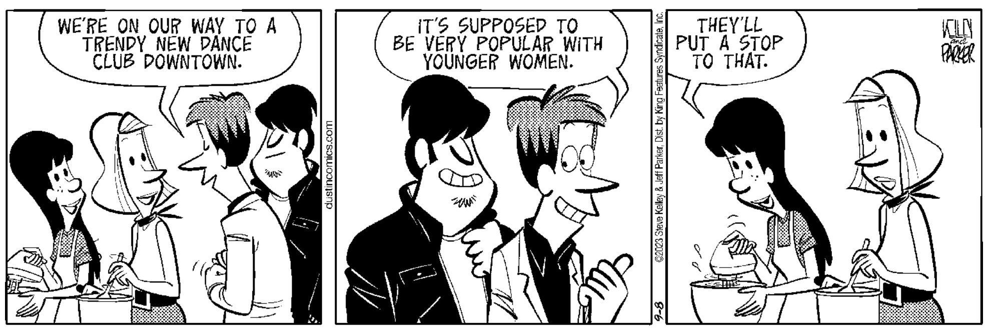
GARFIELD JIM DAVIS



BARNEY AND CLYDE WEINGARTENS & CLARK

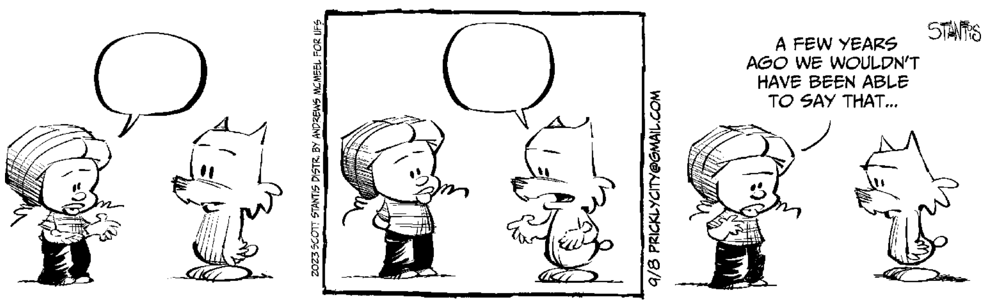


DUSTIN STEVE KELLEY & JEFF PARKER



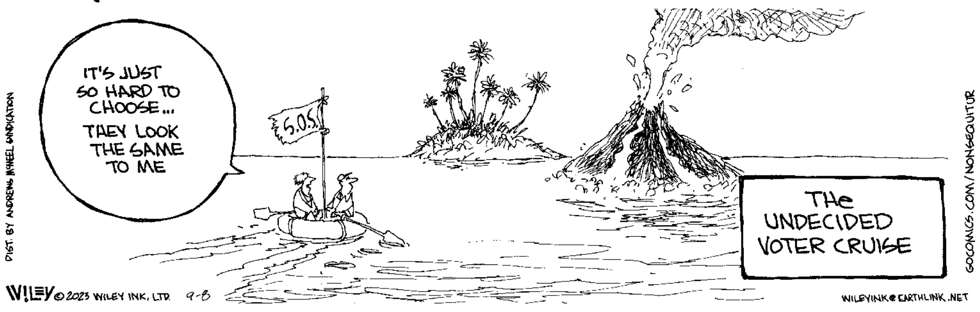
THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN STAN LEE & ALEX SAVIUK

PRICKLY CITY SCOTT STANTIS



LOOSE PARTS DAVE BLAZEK

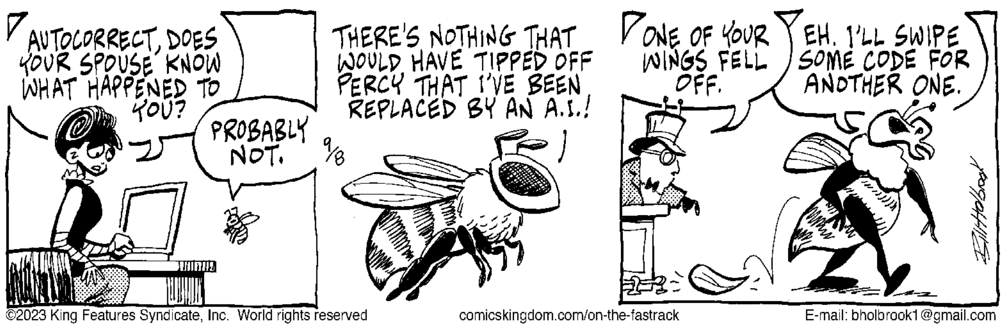
NON SEQUITUR WILEY



BABY BLUES RICK KIRKMAN & JERRY SCOTT

BIG NATE LINCOLN PEIRCE

ON THE FASTRACK BILL HOLBROOK



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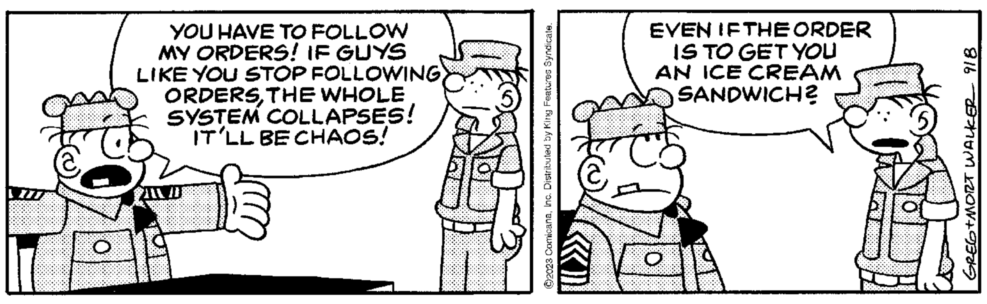
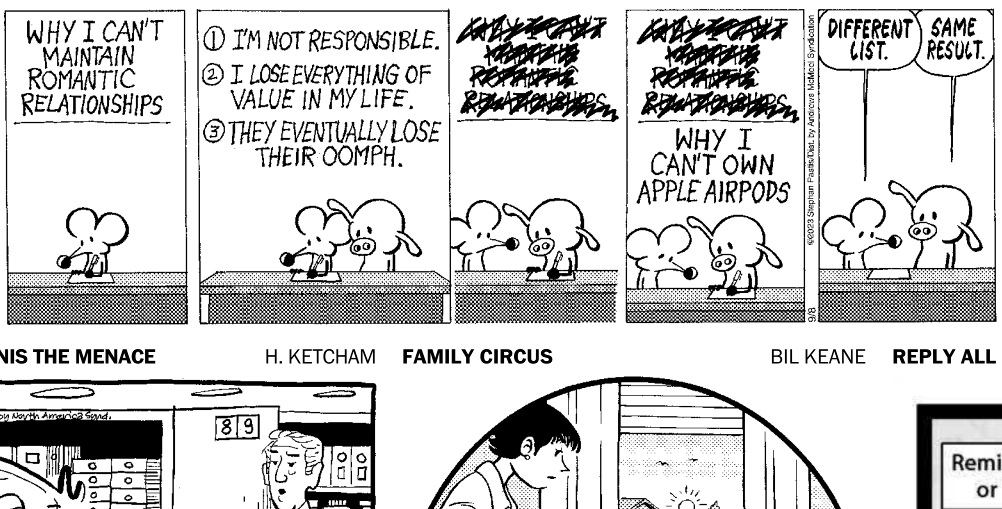
BEETLE BAILEY GREG, BRIAN & NEAL WALKER



PEARLS BEFORE SWINE STEPHAN PASTIS



HOROSCOPE

BIRTHDAY | SEPTEMBER 8

You have strong opinions and are fiercely determined, which is why it's good that you have excellent communication skills. It's important to focus on family and service to others this year. Obviously, take care of yourself first. Time for a makeover?

Moon Alert: After 1 a.m. today there are no restrictions to shopping or important decisions. The Moon is in Cancer.

ARIES
(MARCH 21-APRIL 19).
Keep your eyes open for amazing opportunities that might begin at work today or in a work-related culture. A tiny seed of an idea today could grow into any kind of success in the future.

TAURUS
(APRIL 20-MAY 20).
This is a fantastic day to socialize! No matter what you're doing, whether you have a Champagne purse or a beer wallet, get out and socialize! Meet a friend for coffee, lunch or dinner.

GEMINI
(MAY 21-JUNE 20).
Family discussions might trigger an idea that grows into something fantastic. Therefore, respect what everyone says, because you never know where your next winning idea will come from.

CANCER
(JUNE 21-JULY 22).
This is a successful day. Whatever you dream about today, you will do it well because you feel optimistic and mentally ambitious! It's a great day to make plans for the future.

LEO
(JULY 23-AUG. 22).
Business and commerce are beautifully favored today. Despite the fact that Mercury is retrograde, you can still build on an old idea and give it new legs, because this is the perfect day to grow concepts that can yield profits and wealth down the road.

VIRGO
(AUG. 23-SEPT. 22).
Go for the gold. This is a happy, lucky day! It's the perfect day to nurture big ideas and work for success. Don't hesitate to be swept away by your optimism, because this is the kind of day where good ideas can get a foothold.

LIBRA
(SEPT. 23-OCT. 22).
This is a feel-good day, which is why you're at peace and harmony with others. Take it easy and relax. Take stock of your life as a whole to see how you're doing and how things fit with your real needs. You can make positive changes today.

SCORPIO
(OCT. 23-NOV. 21).
This is a wonderful day to schmooze with others, because you feel generous, expansive and eager for new experiences. You will love taking a trip with someone or exploring something new with friends or groups.

SAGITTARIUS
(NOV. 22-DEC. 21).
You look like a winner today! People see you as enthusiastic, optimistic and successful, which is why they want to be in your company. Possibly, someone will ask you for a favor or a recommendation.

CAPRICORN
(DEC. 22-JAN. 19).
This is the day to travel somewhere. You want to expand your world! If you can't get outta Dodge, then be a tourist in your own town. Go someplace you've never been before to feel the stimulation of new architecture, new faces, new places and a different "feel."

AQUARIUS
(JAN. 20-FEB. 18).
Discussions about shared property, taxes, debt and inheritances, as well as shared responsibilities, will go well today. The gods are smiling on you. Expect to come out on top today, because you'll be laughing all the way to the bank.

PISCES
(FEB. 19-MARCH 20).
Relations with partners and close friends are warm and expansive today. People are in a positive mood and willing to understand each other, and even help each other. Some days are winning days, and this is one of them.

— *Georgia Nicols*

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PREVIOUS SUDOKU SOLUTION

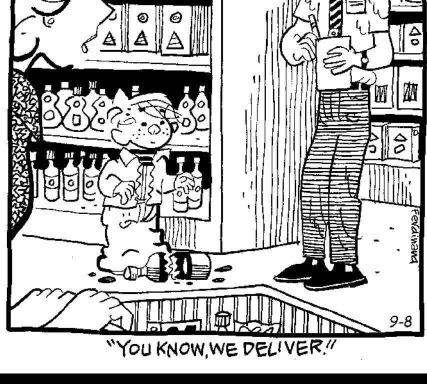
2	3	1	9	7	8	6	4	5
7	9	6	4	5	2	8	1	3
4	5	8	1	6	3	9	2	7
5	1	2	6	8	7	3	9	4
9	7	4	3	1	5	2	6	8
8	6	3	2	9	4	7	5	1
6	2	5	7	3	1	4	8	9
1	4	7	8	2	9	5	3	6
3	8	9	5	4	6	1	7	2

PREVIOUS SCRABBLEGRAMS SOLUTION

C3	A1	R1	O1	L1	E1	R1	RACK 1 =	59
G2	A1	R1	B3	A1	G2	E1	RACK 2 =	83
E1	X8	H4	U1	M3	E1		RACK 3 =	18
P3	R1	I1	M3	A1	T1	E1	RACK 4 =	64
PAR SCORE 150-160							TOTAL	224

SPEED BUMP DAVE COVERLY

DENNIS THE MENACE H. KETCHAM



"YOU KNOW, WE DELIVER."

FAMILY CIRCUS BIL KEANE

"You said it'd be tomorrow when I got up, but it's still TODAY."

REPLY ALL LITE DONNA A. LEWIS

The Washington Post
SPORTS
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2023

ROB CARR/GETTY IMAGES

Since Joe Burrow arrived in Cincinnati, the woebegone Bengals have transformed into an annual contender, playing in the Super Bowl after the 2021 season.

Burrow can see it all

Bengals quarterback has a subtle genius, using his field vision to lead Cincinnati to new heights

BY ADAM KILGORE
IN CINCINNATI

Brandon Allen joined the Cincinnati Bengals as a backup quarterback before the 2020 season, at the same time the franchise drafted Joe Burrow with the first pick. Allen had shared meeting rooms with about a dozen quarterbacks over four NFL seasons, and he had had hundreds, if not thousands, of conversations about how to read a defense. How would they study the shifting alignment at the line? Which defender would they look at right before the snap? What did they do to get to the backside progression before a 280-pound man slammed into their ribs and ruined an entire city's Sunday?

All the quarterbacks had developed personal systems, mechanisms to discern complex patterns within fractions of a second in the cauldron of an NFL field. Burrow was different. He did not key in on one player. He had no tricks to determine what he needed to do. He just . . . knew.

"Every time you ask Joe something, he says, 'I can just see it all,'" Allen said. "It's a special talent he has. He's got full vision of the field. He feels things. He always just says, 'I can see it all.'"

In the three years since Burrow arrived in Cincinnati, the Bengals have transformed from NFL punchline to annual contender, the one team consistently capable of standing up to Patrick Mahomes's Kansas City Chiefs. They went to the Super Bowl after the 2021 season and missed a return trip in January only after Mahomes's heroics and a shove that came half a yard on the wrong edge of the sideline. They

SEE **BURROW** ON **D3**

Joe Cool gets paid
Burrow and the Bengals reach five-year, $275 million deal. **D3**

Ownership will not bring back old name

Commanders don't want to 're-litigate the past,' Harris's top partner says

BY NICKI JHABVALA

The new owners of the Washington Commanders could opt for another name change, but they will not go back to using the team's previous moniker, the Redskins.

"That ship has sailed," Mitchell Rales, the top partner in Josh Harris's ownership group, told a crowd of nearly 700 at a dinner hosted by David Rubenstein and the Economic Club of Washington, D.C., on Wednesday. "We're not going to re-litigate the past. We're about the future. We're about building the future and not having a divisive culture that we're engaged in. We're going to look at everything come the end of the year and think about a lot of different things and do a lot of testing and see what people think. And we'll learn. The beauty is we have the time to look at all of this stuff intelligently and make fan-based decisions."

Rales's comments were the first from the new ownership group that shut down the possibility of the team restoring the old name. They echoed what team president Jason Wright said on 106.7 the Fan last week, that going back to the former name is "not being considered, period."

Washington retired the name

SEE **COMMANDERS** ON **D2**

Cardinals at Commanders
Sunday, 1 p.m., Fox

PRO FOOTBALL
The Super Bowl champion Chiefs, without Travis Kelce, fall to the Lions in the NFL opener, 21-20. **D3**

COLLEGE FOOTBALL
Virginia Tech is sticking with its two-quarterback plan for Saturday's game against visiting Purdue. **D5**

SOCCER
Christian Pulisic, off to a sizzling start with Serie A's AC Milan, returns to the U.S. men in fine form. **D6**

The Nats have solid pieces, but puzzle is without shape

Barry Svrluga

Jacob Young's walk-off single Wednesday night will forever be a memory for a rookie whose future in the big leagues isn't guaranteed. But the Washington Nationals' season won't be defined by that win over the New York Mets, the losing streak that preceded it or the encouraging month that came before. This is a complex, incomplete evaluation, and speaking in absolutes comes only with risk. Write everything in pencil. For now.

What we know is that with Wednesday's 3-2 victory, the Nats both stopped a six-game slide and are now somehow 35-30 since June 23. In that time, they have won 13 series and lost just seven. In a span of more than two months and 40 percent of a season, that's not nothing. It's not just progress when cast against the 107-loss disaster of 2022. It's progress that's building toward something in the future.

But when and if the Nationals are good again, when they're

SEE **SVRLUGA** ON **D4**

Dodgers at Nationals
Today, 7 p.m., MASN2

Long delay doesn't halt Gauff's march to final

Climate activist protest stops play before her eventual semifinal win

BY AVA WALLACE

NEW YORK — Nineteen-year-old Coco Gauff reached the doorstep of her first U.S. Open final in a relative hurry. Then she was made to wait.

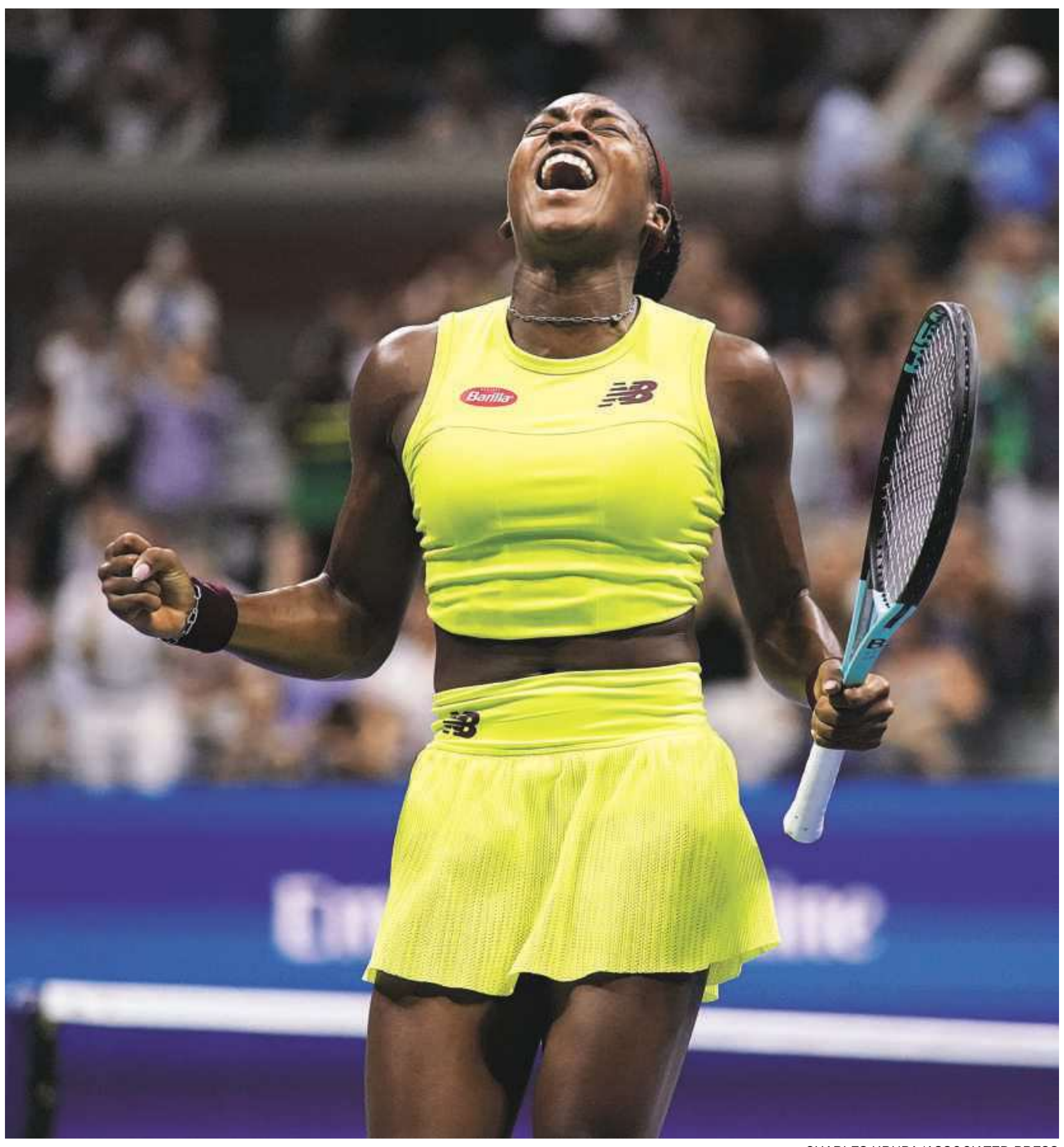
She had to wait nearly an hour through a stoppage of play in her semifinal against the Czech Republic's Karolina Muchova because of a protest from climate activists, and that wasn't nearly as tense as the five match points she lost before she finally beat Muchova, 6-4, 7-5. Even that took a marathon, 40-shot rally lasting more than a minute that Gauff clinched with a virtuoso forehand winner to set up her sixth match point.

She issued a restrained, double fist-pump after Muchova finally sent one last groundstroke long, then emotion overwhelmed and she screamed as a thunderous crowd at Arthur Ashe Stadium screamed back. Gauff will play either countrywoman Madison Keys or Belarusian Aryna Sabalenka on Saturday for the U.S. Open title and her first Grand Slam trophy.

She is the youngest American

SEE **U.S. OPEN** ON **D5**

U.S. Open: Men's semifinals
Today, 3 p.m. and 7 p.m., ESPN



CHARLES KRUPA/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Coco Gauff defeated Karolina Muchova in straight sets to advance to her first U.S. Open final.

Unwanted kiss puts Hermoso in unwanted role of victim

Candace Buckner

Jenni Hermoso isn't a helpless woman who was pulled into an unwanted kiss. She's the prolific scorer who propelled Spain through the 2023 World Cup bracket. She's much more than the summoned plaintiff seeking an investigation from the Spanish attorney general's office on whether that act rises to a "crime of sexual assault." She's the swaggering player who broke down in tears after helping her team make history by winning the whole thing.

The identities assigned to Hermoso now threaten to overwhelm and diminish everything she accomplished before Luis Rubiales, the president of the Spanish soccer federation, placed his greasy paws on her face and pulled her into that kiss. She didn't consent to Rubiales's act. She never asked for this role. Hermoso had to define herself as a complainant in court because Spanish authorities can investigate a sexual assault only if the victim reports the case herself. Justice might arrive,

SEE **BUCKNER** ON **D6**

DIGEST

COLLEGES

LSU coach Mulkey gets nation's highest salary

LSU and women's basketball coach **Kim Mulkey** agreed to a new 10-year, $32 million deal that will make her the highest-paid coach in women's college basketball, according to multiple reports.

News of the deal, which is expected to be approved Friday by the school's board of supervisors, was first reported by the Advocate in Baton Rouge.

Earlier this year, Mulkey led LSU to a national championship in her second season at the school. It was her fourth title as a head coach after she won three at Baylor.

The new deal is reportedly set to pay Mulkey $2.75 million, with her salary rising to $3.65 million by its final year in 2033. She will become the second-highest-paid coach at LSU behind football coach **Brian Kelly**.

Mulkey also will be the country's top-paid women's basketball coach, ahead of South Carolina's **Dawn Staley** and Connecticut's **Geno Auriemma**, both of whom agreed to new contracts in 2021.

— Glynn A. Hill

North Carolina football coach **Mack Brown** ripped the NCAA in a lengthy statement after it denied immediate eligibility to a transfer.

After hearing an appeal from wide receiver **Devontez "Tez" Walker**, the college sports governing body upheld a previous ruling that his move to the Tar Heels constituted his second transfer, which usually mandates that a player sit out a season. Some multi-time transfers have gained waivers based on certain external, medical or personal factors, but the NCAA decided Walker didn't meet those criteria.

"It's clear that the NCAA is about process and it couldn't care less about the young people it's supposed to be supporting," Brown said in his statement. "Plain and simple, the NCAA has failed Tez and his family and I've lost all faith in its ability to lead and govern our sport."

Brown ended his statement by writing, "Shame on you, NCAA. SHAME ON YOU!"

— Des Bieler

Michigan State athletics officials said they will "expand our use of video access as a tool" to aid in evaluating football injuries and in deciding whether players can return to game action.

The statement follows a decision to send **Alante Brown** back into last week's season opener against Central Michigan after he was carted off the field following a collision on the game-opening kickoff. The Nebraska transfer came back in and returned a kickoff 16 yards but was on the sideline, not in uniform, in the second half.

BASKETBALL

New Orleans Pelicans forward **Trey Murphy III**, who hurt his left knee during a workout this week, underwent arthroscopic surgery to repair his meniscus and is expected to return to "basketball activities" in 10 to 12 weeks, the club said.

In addition to a meniscectomy, the Pelicans said, Murphy received a biologic injection that is meant to slow or stop inflammation around the injured joint.

A 2021 first-round pick out of Virginia, Murphy emerged as a frequent starter and reliable scorer last season, averaging 14.5 points. . . .

Latvia will play Lithuania for fifth place at the FIBA World Cup. And Slovenia and Italy couldn't recover one day after seeing their hopes of making the tournament semifinals fall short.

Latvia earned its trip to that game by topping Italy, 87-82, in the start of the consolation playoffs. Lithuania then beat Slovenia, 100-84, in the night's second game.

Slovenia will play Italy for seventh place Saturday, the same day that Latvia and Lithuania will play for fifth place.

AUTO RACING

A successful rookie season earned **Marcus Armstrong** a multiyear extension with Chip Ganassi Racing, and the New Zealander will add ovals to his schedule next season.

Armstrong raced only the road and street courses this season after making the move from Formula 2 to IndyCar last year. Headed into the season finale Sunday in Monterey, Armstrong has four finishes of ninth or better in 11 races.

The 23-year-old leads the rookie of the year standings despite three other drivers running full schedules. Armstrong is scheduled to test on his first oval next week at Texas Motor Speedway.

The Ganassi lineup next year will be Armstrong, six-time IndyCar champion **Scott Dixon**, two-time champ **Alex Palou** and rookie **Linus Lundqvist**.

MISC.

Colombian cyclist **Juan Sebastián Molano** sprinted to win the 12th stage of the Spanish Vuelta, and American rival **Sepp Kuss** kept hold of the overall lead for the fifth straight day.

Molano was launched by UAE Team Emirates teammate **Rui Oliveira** over the final meters to win the 151-kilometer (94-mile) ride from Olvega to Zaragoza in northern Spain. The 28-year-old Colombian also won a stage at last year's Vuelta. . . .

The Boston Marathon will add two more para athlete divisions and boost prize money that will put the total Patriots' Day purse above $1 million for the first time, organizers said.

— From news services

TELEVISION AND RADIO

MLB

2 p.m.	**Arizona at Chicago Cubs** » MLB Network
7 p.m.	**Los Angeles Dodgers at Washington** » MASN2, WJFK (106.7 FM)
7 p.m.	**Baltimore at Boston** » MASN, WIYY (97.9 FM), WSBN (630 AM)
7 p.m.	**Milwaukee at New York Yankees** » MLB Network

WNBA

7 p.m.	**Atlanta at Washington** » Ion

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

7 p.m.	**Indiana State at Indiana** » Big Ten Network
7:30 p.m.	**Illinois at Kansas** » ESPN2

AUTO RACING

6 p.m.	**ARCA Series: Sioux Chief Fast Track 150** » Fox Sports 1
9 p.m.	**NASCAR Truck Series: Kansas Lottery 200, playoffs** » Fox Sports 1

GOLF

8 a.m.	**DP World Tour: Irish Open, second round** » Golf Channel
1 p.m.	**PGA Tour Champions: Ascension Charity Classic, first round** » Golf Channel
4 p.m.	**LPGA Tour: Queen City Championship, second round** » Golf Channel
11 p.m.	**Asian Tour: Shinhan Donghae Open, third round** » Golf Channel

SOCCER

Noon	**Africa Cup of Nations qualifying, Group D: Ethiopia at Egypt** » beIN Sports
Noon	**UEFA Euro qualifying, Group A: Spain at Georgia** » Fox Sports 2
2:45 p.m.	**UEFA Euro qualifying, Group D: Armenia at Turkey** » Fox Sports 2
3 p.m.	**Africa Cup of Nations qualifying, Group G: South Sudan at Mali** » beIN Sports
7 p.m.	**Canadian Premier League: Valour at York United** » Fox Sports 2

TENNIS

Noon	**ATP: U.S. Open, doubles championship** » ESPN
3 p.m.	**ATP: U.S. Open, semifinal** » ESPN
7 p.m.	**ATP: U.S. Open, semifinal** » ESPN

BASKETBALL

8:30 a.m.	**FIBA World Cup, semifinal: United States vs. Germany** » ESPN2
9 p.m.	**G League, exhibition: Perth at Team Ignite** » NBA TV

AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

5:30 a.m.	**AFL: Sydney at Carlton** » Fox Sports 2
1 a.m. (Saturday)	**AFL: Greater Western Sydney at St. Kilda** » Fox Sports 2

CANADIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE

7 p.m.	**Hamilton at Ottawa** » CBS Sports Network

WOMEN'S RUGBY

11:30 p.m.	**New Zealand Rugby League: Newcastle at Sydney** » Fox Sports 2

MEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER

6 p.m.	**Boston College at North Carolina State** » ACC Network
8 p.m.	**Louisville at Syracuse** » ACC Network

WOMEN'S COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL

7 p.m.	**Clemson at Florida** » SEC Network
7:30 p.m.	**Minnesota vs. Oregon** » Pac-12 Network
10 p.m.	**Ohio State at Stanford** » Pac-12 Network

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

10 p.m.	**Centennial (Calif.) at Bishop Gorman (Nev.)** » ESPNU

Johnson offers his wisdom to players

BY NICKI JHABVALA

For about 30 minutes Wednesday, NBA legend and new Commanders limited partner Earvin "Magic" Johnson stood at the front of the team's meeting room in Ashburn for some season-opening motivation.

In a closed-door meeting with players and coaches, he shared some lessons and stories he has collected over the years as an NBA champion, businessman and sports team owner. He talked about his former teammates and told of how they would hold one another accountable. Then he opened it up for questions.

"All of [the Commanders players] had great questions. . . . They really want to win. They wanted to hear what I had to say in terms of that. How did I approach the game? How did I prepare for the game? What drove me?" Johnson said Thursday night after visiting with about 200 children at a Boys & Girls Club in Southeast Washington.

". . . My message was preparation, preparation, preparation and then discipline, discipline, discipline and then execution, execution, execution. And last but not least, they have to police themselves. They must demand a lot of themselves and have goals as a team and then go out after those goals. What's going to be our DNA of this team? And then you hang your hat on that. Every Sunday you got to hang your hat on this is who we are, this is how we're going to play."

The visit left tackle Alex Akingbulu a bit star struck. Born in Los Angeles, Akingbulu grew up a die-hard Lakers fan, and though he was born just after Johnson retired, he reveres him.

"He has a lot of knowledge about so many different things and even about business, too," Akingbulu said. "He talked about little business things, too. So just like, man, this is a blessing to have someone like that."

STEPHEN WHYNO/ASSOCIATED PRESS

"I have 14 world championship rings, and I want a Super Bowl ring," said Commanders limited partner Magic Johnson, center.

Johnson's conversation with players ran over the time the coaching staff allowed, forcing the team to rearrange its practice schedule. But players and coaches seemed thrilled to adjust.

Quarterback Sam Howell described Johnson's talk as "magical."

"It was awesome, man, just to be able to hear what he had to say and be able to ask him questions at the end and pick his brain," Howell said. ". . . Obviously, he's been through so many different teams and not only as a player but as an owner and won so many championships on both sides of it. He definitely knows what it takes."

Johnson won an NCAA championship with Michigan State in 1979, then went on to win five NBA titles, take home three MVP awards and appear in 12 all-star games with the Los Angeles Lakers. He also won two Olympic gold medals before embarking on a business career and sports executive that includes even more championship hardware.

He won a WNBA championship as owner of the Los Angeles Sparks in 2016, a World Series as part-owner of the Los Angeles Dodgers in 2020 and the MLS Cup as co-owner of Los Angeles FC in 2022.

"You could tell they really bought into it and understood exactly what he was talking about," Commanders Coach Ron Rivera said of his players. "It's funny — it's kind of like being a parent. You can tell your kid all you want, but until somebody like Magic says it, it didn't mean something. But it was really cool because he talked to the guys, talked about the characteristics of a championship team, about how they held each other accountable, how it didn't matter who you were — you could hold each other accountable.

"And that was probably one of the more important messages. I really appreciated that. Just listening to him talk to the guys about how successful he is, and you understand why just because of who he is."

Wide receiver Terry McLaurin met Johnson at the ownership group's introductory news conference earlier in the summer, and he hopes to have more meetings with him in the future.

"I'm looking for him to hopefully mentor me and sit down so we can talk about what it takes to be great," McLaurin said. "But also life after football and how he became such a successful businessman."

Said Johnson: "I kept telling them I've never been satisfied. I'm a guy who wants more. I've always wanted more. I have 14 world championship rings, and I want a Super Bowl ring. And so how can I help them achieve that?"

"This is what I told them," he continued. ". . . I said: 'You don't have to worry about no problems from this ownership group. You just have to concentrate on Sundays, playing football. You ain't going to read no headlines. You're not going to have to worry about nothing. No questions from [media] about stuff off the field. Your job is just to concentrate on doing your job and having fun every Sunday, every Thursday or every Monday. That's it.' "

JOHN MCDONNELL/THE WASHINGTON POST

"You're going to see a lot of me," said new Commanders owner Josh Harris, center, who plans to attend every home game this season.

New Commanders owners will not restore old name

COMMANDERS FROM D1

in 2020 amid pressure from sponsors and local officials. It used the Washington Football Team as a placeholder for 18 months before unveiling its new name, the Commanders, in February 2022.

Fans struggled to warm up to the name. In a Washington Post poll of D.C. residents published later that month, nearly half the respondents said they had a negative view of "Commanders," with 32 percent disliking it and 17 percent saying they hated it.

The new ownership group opened the door to a possible name change shortly after completing its $6.05 billion purchase of the team from Daniel Snyder. NBA legend Magic Johnson, one of 20 limited partners in the group, said during an interview on NBC's "Today" in July that "everything's on the table, especially after this year."

But Harris and his partners have also said repeatedly that their priorities are the season, improving the experience at FedEx Field and trying to restore the fan base. The team invested $40 million in capital repairs and upgrades to the fan experience at the stadium, including new food vendors and a new video board.

The ownership group has been front and center since buying the team. Harris and Rales attended every game in the preseason and plan to be at every home game in the regular season.

"You're going to see a lot of me," said Harris, who watched Wednesday's practice in Ashburn alongside Johnson. Johnson addressed players in a meeting before the workout and will be at Sunday's season opener against the Arizona Cardinals.

Also expected at Sunday's game: John Riggins, the franchise's legendary former running back and an outspoken critic of Snyder's. His return to Washington's sideline, unthinkable just months ago, is indicative of the broader change with the new regime. Almost immediately after purchasing the team, Harris reached out to Art Monk and Darrell Green, who, along with other former players, had front-row seats to the ownership group's introductory news conference in July.

Rales said he and Harris also have had roundtable lunches with 10 to 12 players at a time to get to know them and to hear ways in which they can make improvements.

"We wanted to learn about their lives and who they were and the way they were thinking and what they were experiencing as part of this new regime and what it was like in the old days and what we could do to improve things for them," Rales said. "They all talk in the league. You can look at the statistics and see where our training camp [ranks] compared to other training camps, our stadium compared to the other stadiums."

On Wednesday, Rubenstein asked Harris and Rales how long they would need before deciding whether Ron Rivera is "the right person" as coach. Neither provided a timetable.

"I've really enjoyed getting to know Coach Rivera," Harris said. "He is a good man. He's done a great job in terms of where the team is relative to where it was when he got here and relative to all the distractions going on. He's got a very capable front office. What I've said is that we're getting up to speed, and I want to hear you think, we want to learn how you make decisions — and it's going really well."

"I don't like putting tremendous pressure on someone," Harris continued. "Everyone who coaches an NFL team or an NBA team and us as owners . . . we all realize that ultimately we have to deliver wins on the field. So you don't really need to say anything. It's just out there."

Rubenstein also pressed the owners on the location of the team's next stadium. The team courted elected officials throughout training camp, and Wednesday it sat before D.C. Mayor Muriel E. Bowser (D) as she addressed the crowd at the Economic Club. Govs. Glenn Youngkin (R) of Virginia and Wes Moore (D) of Maryland both appeared at training camp practices, and Moore also attended the team's preseason game against the Baltimore Ravens at FedEx Field.

"We're looking," Harris said of a new stadium location. "We're very excited to be welcomed by all three jurisdictions, and we're looking forward to engaging in the process."

"We have the beginnings of a real estate team to help us with all this," Harris added, noting the team's hire of Thad Sheely as an adviser on real estate and stadium matters. "We're very serious. . . . We're going to engage quickly because we appreciate that the sooner we get started, the sooner we're going to be in a new home."

PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL

Welcome to prime time: Upstart Detroit knocks off the champs

LIONS 21, CHIEFS 20

BY DAVE SKRETTA

KANSAS CITY, MO. — Jared Goff threw for 253 yards and a touchdown, new Lions running back David Montgomery ran for the go-ahead score with 5:05 remaining in the game, and Detroit held on for a sloppy 21-20 victory over the Super Bowl champion Kansas City Chiefs in the NFL's season opener Thursday night.

Amon-Ra St. Brown had six catches for 71 yards and a touchdown and Lions rookie Brian Branch returned Patrick Mahomes's first interception in an opener 50 yards for another touchdown, helping Detroit snap the Chiefs' eight-game Week 1 winning streak.

The Lions were trying to run out the clock when Goff had a fourth-down pass near midfield batted down with 2:30 left, giving the Chiefs a chance. But they made a mess of it: Kadarius Toney dropped a potential 20-yard gain, a deep completion was called back for holding, Skyy Moore dropped a pass, and a false start left Mahomes heaving a fourth-and-25 throw downfield.

When it fell incomplete and Detroit took over, Montgomery ran for a first down that allowed the Lions to run out the clock.

Mahomes finished with 226 yards passing and two touchdowns despite his receivers dropping a slew of passes. He also was the leading rusher for the Chiefs, whose self-inflicted wounds proved too much to overcome.

There had been equal parts anticipation and anxiety leading up to the game in Kansas City, where the Chiefs celebrated their previous Lombardi Trophy in the midst of a pandemic and only about 18,000 fans were able to join in the revelry.

Hundreds began tailgating outside the Arrowhead Stadium parking lot Thursday, waiting for the gates to open 14 hours before kickoff, and NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell joined several celebrities to see the Chiefs raise a championship banner.

That was the anticipation. The anxiety came from the absence of Chiefs tight end Travis Kelce and fellow all-pro Chris Jones, who is in the midst of a contract holdout. The defensive tackle was expected to miss the opener, but Kelce had been questionable only since Tuesday, when he hyperextended his knee in practice.

Detroit scored first in a showdown of two of the league's top offenses a year ago. Goff took advantage of a clean pocket, thanks in part to Jones sitting in a stadium suite, to march down field and find St. Brown with a nine-yard touchdown pass.

The Chiefs answered with Mahomes finding five different wide receivers, the last of them rookie Rashee Rice, who atoned for an earlier drop with a short touchdown catch to knot the game at 7.

— Associated Press

Bengals thriving with Burrow's superpower: He sees everything

BURROW FROM **D1**

are favorites in the loaded AFC North, having retained their entire coaching staff and top offensive weaponry, continuity rarely afforded a team with such success.

If one superpower has driven the Bengals' ascent, it is Burrow's ability to scan a football field and see more than any of his peers. Burrow is the son of a college football coach, and his vision derives from an inherently gifted mind, an advanced football background and years of refinement. It makes him one of the best at the most demanding position in professional sports.

"He has a natural, athletic-spatial mind," Bengals offensive coordinator Brian Callahan said. "Things just make sense to him. Space makes sense. Where people are in space, he doesn't have to work very hard at that. He just sees and feels. He sort of has a sixth sense of what's around him."

Burrow's field vision extends beyond experience and preparation, toward something like genius. He excels at any pursuit that requires sifting through information to solve a problem. Hayden Hurst, a former Bengals tight end, said Burrow could beat anybody in the locker room at chess. Bengals Coach Zac Taylor thinks Burrow could be an excellent pilot. Burrow's mother, Robin, recalled her son being a whiz at jigsaw puzzles and building Lego sets.

"Does that have anything to do with football?" asked Burrow's father, Jimmy. "I have no idea."

Maybe it does. At the conclusion of Cincinnati's final quarterback meeting of each week, a quality control coach posts a challenge that tangentially relates to the city of the Bengals' upcoming opponent. They are trivia questions nobody knows the answer to: How many Starbucks franchises are in the world? How many cars, on average, are driving on Detroit roads at a given moment? Without fail, Burrow wins the contest.

"That's got to mean something," Taylor said. "He's got the same information we all have. He continuously wins these games. Surely, that transfers over to why he's a great quarterback and has insane vision and can process the game different from the other seven people in the room."

JEFF DEAN/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Joe Burrow is back from the calf injury that sidelined him during Cincinnati's camp and preseason.

SUE OGROCKI/ASSOCIATED PRESS

After not cracking the starting lineup at Ohio State, Burrow left for LSU and led the Tigers to the national title after the 2019 season.

Football as a native language

Jimmy Burrow coached defense, mostly as Ohio University's defensive coordinator during Burrow's childhood. Burrow's two older brothers played defense. "He really wanted to play defense all along, even when he was the quarterback," Jimmy said of his youngest son.

In a sense, Burrow learned how to play quarterback inside-out. Most kids watch the ball and the people carrying it. "At the games, he was focused more so on watching what [my] guys were going to do," Jimmy said. Jimmy specialized in defensive backs, and Burrow studied how they moved in unison.

Being a coach's son did not provide the kind of football education most outsiders expect. "A lot people think we just grinded away on film," Jimmy said. "We really didn't." There were advantages, though. Burrow attended practices and could tell how work ethic separated the good players. He learned terminology through immersion, which meant he could speak football as a native language with his own coaches.

Burrow's sense for football also came naturally. When Burrow was in fourth grade, his father watched him audible to a quarterback run because of how linebackers had reacted to a bunched set of wide receivers. He tapped his center on the backside, then ran for a 70-yard touchdown.

Burrow's skill for seeing the field was revealed to him only after he temporarily lost it. He didn't play his first three seasons in college, passed over by Urban Meyer on Ohio State's depth chart. In 2018, Burrow transferred to LSU, started immediately and played well but not exceptionally so. Entering 2019, his final season of eligibility, he was viewed as a mid-round draft pick at best. After three years without game experience, he could not process the game like he had in high school.

"And then after my first year starting in college, it kind of clicked for me . . . and everything was back to the way I remember it," Burrow said. His second season at LSU might be the greatest collegiate passing season ever: He threw for 5,671 yards and 60 touchdowns and won the Heisman Trophy while leading the Tigers to an undefeated national championship.

"You have a natural feel as an athlete, and then you focus on a sport, and you accumulate reps and get better and better every time you see something and feel something and put it in the back of your mind," Burrow said. "The more you play, the more reps you get, the better you get."

'I can't really coach that'

A quarterback's vision begins when he breaks the huddle. He first looks at the way the linemen and linebackers are aligned. From there, he can determine how he must direct his offensive linemen to protect him and consider everything the defense can do in pass coverage behind that front. He looks at the safeties first, which winnows the number of pass coverages the defense might play. Once the ball is snapped, he keeps his eyes on the safeties to confirm — or reconsider — everything he thought before the snap.

"It's a puzzle," Bengals quarterbacks coach Dan Pitcher said. "Once he's identified one or two pieces of that puzzle, he knows how the other nine or 10 pieces fit. He just has that global understanding of what they're trying to do."

Roger Federer once told the writer David Foster Wallace that he rarely watched tennis in person, but when he sat courtside for a match, he could not believe how fast the players and the ball moved as a spectator. The game slowed down and made perfect sense to him only while he was on the court.

Many quarterbacks — and most of the quarterbacks who fail — process the game on television better than they can while playing. They identify their mistakes on film, then go out and make them again on the field. Burrow, like Federer, is the opposite: The game comes easiest to him when he is in the middle of it. He can see everything only when he's playing.

"On TV, you can't really see anything," Burrow said. "You see what happens, and then you try to decipher what the coverage was or what the play was, but you don't have the full picture."

During a film session last year, Pitcher asked Burrow why he had correctly chosen not to make a quick, short throw despite the defense giving the look of a blitz.

"I knew that guy wasn't coming," Burrow said.

"How did you know?" Pitcher asked.

"Well, I could just tell by the way he was communicating with the safety," Burrow replied.

There have been other times, Pitcher said, when Burrow might make a similar decision based on a minuscule tell in a defender's stance.

"I can't really coach that," Pitcher said.

Coaches marvel at Burrow's access to memory. In his rookie season, Washington's defense played a formation the Bengals had not expected or prepared for. But another opponent had used it earlier in the season. On the fly, Burrow recalled the proper audible and changed the play to a run the Bengals had installed weeks earlier.

"He never really misses," Taylor said. "And then when they do [beat him], he stores it away and remembers it, and it doesn't happen to him again."

Burrow translates his mental acuity into physical execution. Callahan called him "one of the most accurate passers in football history." His ability to read defenders allows him to identify not only which receiver he should pass to but where he needs to precisely locate those passes. He sometimes will purposefully throw outside a receiver's frame, either to give him room to run or so he can avoid a big hit.

"A lot of times when he throws a ball, sometimes it'll look like, 'That wasn't a very good throw,' " Callahan said. "He knows exactly what he's trying to do with the ball."

Last year, the Bengals frequently used Hurst, who has since signed with the Carolina Panthers, as a checkdown option. Hurst would typically catch short passes with his back to the defense. But he knew with 100 percent certainty where the nearest tackler would be, based solely on which side of his body Burrow had thrown the ball toward.

"He's seeing the defenders, and he's expecting me to turn up the field," Hurst said. "That's why I've had so much success on third and short because of his ball placement. As soon as he puts it on a certain shoulder, I'm going to turn and burn for a first down."

Taylor has trouble choosing his favorite Burrow throw — "At this point, it's like calling out your favorite child," he said — but he settled on a play from Burrow's rookie season, against the Tennessee Titans.

Burrow took a shotgun snap on third and nine. The pocket rapidly caved in from his right. A cornerback mugged wide receiver Tyler Boyd, who ran across the middle from Burrow's right to left. Burrow scooted up and to his right, finding a sliver of open space. Boyd planted his left foot on the left hash marks, still blanketed by the corner. With Boyd still moving left and looking left, Burrow rifled a pass behind Boyd's right shoulder, just over a pass rusher's fingertips and into a swath of open air.

It looked like a misguided prayer — until Boyd spun to the right and the ball hissed into his arms the instant he turned his head. Burrow had deciphered the cornerback was playing Boyd inside, which meant Boyd would eventually reroute back the other way. With a mass of bodies collapsing on him, Burrow read Boyd's body movement to determine the exact right time to throw the ball to the exact right location.

"Only he could do s--- like that," Boyd said.

Burrow is capable of magic, but his brilliance often lies in the mundane. Taylor thinks Burrow's willingness to audible to running plays is a sneaky attribute; most quarterbacks resist surrendering a pass play. The Bengals' offense works because Burrow is a master at turning potential calamity into small victory.

During the Bengals' playoff victory in Buffalo in January, Burrow saw the Bills line up in the exact wrong front for a particular play call; the Bengals would have had nobody to block Buffalo's defensive end. In an instant, Burrow diagnosed his problem. Before the end could reach him, he dumped a quick pass that gained five yards. The play was forgettable, and that was what made it great: It could have been a sack or a rushed interception or some other disaster that doesn't befall the Bengals because Burrow is their quarterback.

"The plays that get on 'SportsCenter' that everybody fawns over, a lot of those are physical stuff he can do, which are outstanding," Pitcher said. "We fawn over them, too. Don't get me wrong. Some of the most impressive plays for his coach are ones that may not appear impressive to the general viewer on television. It's because I know what happened between his ears to get him to do it, to get him to do it really fast. Those may not appear as spectacular, but they're equally important — you could argue more important — to his ability to do his job."

"If he wasn't an NFL quarterback, he'd be making a billion dollars doing something else," Pitcher added.

'Only he knows'

Burrow's next contract will give him a good head start at making $1 billion playing quarterback. Burrow became the highest-paid player in NFL history Thursday night, agreeing to a five-year, $275 million contract extension, surpassing the deal signed this offseason by draft classmate Justin Herbert.

A calf injury early in training camp, which sidelined Burrow for most of the preseason, added to the potential stress of his summer as he negotiated the contract. Jimmy Burrow noticed no difference in his son's demeanor.

"That's part of his success is his ability to not focus on outside things that could affect football," Jimmy said. "We don't talk a lot about the contract. We don't even really talk about the injury. . . . I get more information from talking to a coach or the trainer than I do from him. Maybe that allows him to focus even on more football."

What Burrow sees when he is playing football is ultimately a mystery. It is neither explainable nor transferrable. "I watch a bunch of golf videos," said Allen, who signed in the offseason with the San Francisco 49ers. "Tiger Woods says, 'When I'm hitting this shot, I feel it in my hands.' All the other pro golfers are like, 'That doesn't work for me. I can't do that.' " Allen felt the same when he talked to Burrow.

Taylor has coached in the Super Bowl and played quarterback at Nebraska. He understands the position at a molecular level and speaks with Burrow daily. He still realizes he will never know what the football field looks like through Burrow's eyes.

"It's probably hard for me to articulate what he sees because I'm not him," Taylor said. "Only he knows."

NFL NOTES

Cincinnati gives its QB league's biggest deal

FROM NEWS SERVICES AND STAFF REPORTS

Joe Burrow is taking his turn as the NFL's highest-paid player after agreeing to the latest megadeal for a prominent quarterback leaguewide, just ahead of his fourth season with the Cincinnati Bengals.

Burrow, the former No. 1 overall selection in the NFL draft who has led the formerly downtrodden Bengals to two straight AFC championship games and a Super Bowl appearance, agreed to a five-year contract extension worth $275 million. The agreement was confirmed Thursday night by a person familiar with the terms.

The $55 million average annual value of Burrow's deal surpasses the $52.5 million-per-year mark set by quarterback Justin Herbert's five-year, $262.5 million extension completed in July with the Los Angeles Chargers.

Herbert's deal eclipsed Lamar Jackson's five-year, $260 million extension with the Baltimore Ravens in April. Jackson's deal came on the heels of Jalen Hurts's five-year, $255 million extension with the Philadelphia Eagles earlier that month.

Burrow, 26, had two seasons remaining on his existing contract after the Bengals previously exercised their fifth-year option in his original rookie deal. That contract was to pay him nearly $5.5 million this season and $29.5 million next season.

— Mark Maske

• **RAIDERS:** Las Vegas defensive end Chandler Jones again took to social media to criticize team officials, posting and then deleting Wednesday night that the club sent someone from the city of Las Vegas's crisis response team to his home. Jones showed a picture on his Instagram account he said was the badge of the person at his door.

"Raiders sent her to my place said .. You need to come with us 'You're in danger,' " Jones wrote.

He also threatened to publicize unspecified information on Las Vegas Coach Josh McDaniels if Jones doesn't play Sunday when the Raiders open their season at the Denver Broncos.

This is the second time this week Jones took to Instagram to show his discontent. He also criticized McDaniels and General Manager Dave Ziegler on Tuesday, saying he was locked out of the team facility. Jones also deleted that post.

McDaniels was asked about Jones when he met with the media Wednesday and called it a "private matter."

• **COWBOYS:** The Supreme Court of Texas denied the latest appeal made by Dallas owner Jerry Jones's team in the 2020 personal injury lawsuit accusing him of sexual assault, clearing the path for the case to be heard by a jury.

The lawsuit stems from an alleged incident Sept. 16, 2018, at AT&T Stadium, during which a woman said Jones "kissed her on the mouth and forcibly grabbed her without her consent."

• **PACKERS:** Green Bay received mixed news about its injury situation at wide receiver as Romeo Doubs practiced on a limited basis while Christian Watson remained out.

Watson and Doubs, Green Bay's top two returning wideouts, both are dealing with hamstring injuries as quarterback Jordan Love prepares to begin his first season as the Packers' starting quarterback.

Also, left tackle David Bakhtiari, Love's blind-side protector, hasn't practiced this week as the Packers continue to monitor his workload. Bakhtiari played 11 games last season after a torn ACL in his left knee caused him to appear in just one game in the 2021 season.

• **SAINTS:** New Orleans tight end Jimmy Graham learned that he won't have to face charges stemming from his arrest in Southern California last month during what the club has described as a "medical episode."

Graham declined to go into detail about exactly what happened leading up to his arrest.

• **VIKINGS:** Minnesota safety and special teams standout Josh Metellus agreed to terms on a two-year contract extension that has a maximum value of $13 million, according to Metellus's agent, Drew Rosenhaus, further cementing the club's deepest position.

— Associated Press

BASEBALL

National League

EAST	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
Atlanta	91	48	.655	—	7-3	W-1
Philadelphia	77	62	.554	14	6-4	W-1
Miami	72	68	.514	19½	7-3	L-1
New York	64	75	.460	27	5-5	L-1
Washington	63	77	.450	28½	2-8	W-1

CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
Milwaukee	77	62	.554	—	5-5	L-1
Chicago	76	65	.539	2	7-3	L-1
Cincinnati	73	69	.514	5½	5-5	L-1
Pittsburgh	65	75	.464	12½	7-3	W-1
St. Louis	61	79	.436	16½	5-5	L-1

WEST	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
Los Angeles	85	54	.612	—	5-5	W-1
Arizona	73	68	.518	13	4-6	W-2
San Francisco	70	70	.500	15½	3-7	L-6
San Diego	66	75	.468	20	5-5	L-1
Colorado	51	88	.367	34	3-7	L-1

x-Late game

American League

EAST	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
Baltimore	88	51	.633	—	7-3	W-5
Tampa Bay	85	56	.603	4	6-4	L-1
Toronto	77	63	.550	11½	6-4	L-1
Boston	72	68	.514	16½	3-7	L-2
New York	70	70	.500	18½	8-2	L-1

CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
Minnesota	73	67	.521	—	6-4	L-1
x-Cleveland	67	73	.479	6	6-4	W-1
Detroit	64	76	.457	9	5-5	W-1
Chicago	54	86	.386	19	3-7	W-1
Kansas City	44	97	.312	29½	3-7	L-1

WEST	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
Houston	80	61	.567	—	7-3	W-3
Seattle	79	61	.564	½	5-5	W-2
Texas	76	63	.547	3	3-7	L-3
x-Los Angeles	64	76	.457	15½	1-9	L-6
Oakland	43	97	.307	36½	5-5	W-1

x-Late game

Strasburg still working out retirement details with Nats

BY JESSE DOUGHERTY AND BARRY SVRLUGA

Stephen Strasburg and the Washington Nationals have not finalized key details of his retirement terms, according to three people familiar with the matter, so no official announcement is expected Saturday at Nationals Park.

When Strasburg, his representatives and the Nationals first discussed retirement plans this summer, both parties targeted Saturday for a news conference to discuss the decision. Strasburg's plans have not wavered, but by Tuesday afternoon, it became clear he and the team might not hammer out the specific terms by this weekend.

The Nationals, who were off Thursday, begin a three-game series against the Los Angeles Dodgers on Friday.

After this season, there are still three years left on Strasburg's seven-year, $245 million contract, which he signed in December 2019. Asked about the situation in a radio interview on 106.7 the Fan on Wednesday, Mike Rizzo, the Nationals' general manager, said: "He signed a seven-year deal. He's got [3½] years left on the deal, and he'll get paid for those four years on the deal until he makes a decision on what his future's going to be."

Rizzo has not otherwise discussed the situation publicly. Although it has been clear for a while that Strasburg was unlikely to pitch again, his retirement, once official, will clear a spot on the Nationals' 40-man roster. He is unable to pitch anymore because of ongoing complications from thoracic outlet syndrome. He underwent surgery for neurogenic TOS two summers ago, then made multiple attempts to return. But since late April, he has been shut down from physical activity.

BARRY SVRLUGA

Nationals have promising pieces, but puzzle has yet to take shape

SVRLUGA FROM D1

playing games in September that matter like they did for so long, it won't be because the path back is a straight line. Keep in mind: Cade Cavalli blew out his elbow. Luis García was sent to the minors. CJ Abrams, Josiah Gray and Keibert Ruiz have all excelled, and all hit walls. MacKenzie Gore is inconsistent start to start and pitch to pitch. Put away rulers when plotting individual players' paths to success. Those progressions will look more like Richter scales.

This is not a big-picture concern about the direction of the roster and the system. It's just an acknowledgment that there will be joy and hiccups in this process. Projecting a lineup for 2025 — when it's not unreasonable to believe the Nats could be akin to their 2012 predecessors who unexpectedly won the franchise's first division title — is both fun and folly.

Put another way: It's easy to sit back and say, "Load up on prospects, and everything will work out." The trades of Max Scherzer, Trea Turner and Juan Soto — and so many more World Series heroes — made sense because an aging core could no longer lift the roster and the farm system was depleted to the point of irrelevance. Yes, for years the Nats traded minor leaguers for in-season fixes to push toward the postseason. But they also missed in the draft and failed to develop replacements. A reboot was in order.

So the recent bumps serve as a reminder on a couple of levels: Baseball is fundamentally hard, and once you think a player has figured it out comes the reality that figuring it out is nearly impossible.

For this return to contention to work at a pace the fan base and front office would find reasonable, Abrams *has* to be the shortstop, if not a star, a steadying presence. (Star would be preferable.) During a scorching 33-game stretch from July 4 to Aug. 11, that's what he looked like — hitting .316 with a .370 on-base percentage and .481 slugging percentage, with four homers among his 13 extra-base hits. He steals bases. He can make all the plays. There were blips. But he was burgeoning.

Since: Even with his game-tying single Thursday night, Abrams's slash line over his past 22 games is .179/.239/.321 with four homers — but no doubles or triples.

That doesn't mean Abrams is failing. It means he's finding his way. It's important to remember, as Abrams finishes his first full season in the majors, that his path to being an everyday shortstop in the big leagues was hardly a straight line, either. He was drafted sixth overall out of high school in 2019, played zero games during the lost pandemic season of 2020, broke his leg midway through 2021 and entered this year as an incumbent major league shortstop with all of 534 minor league plate appearances. Ideally, he would have twice as many. He's not just young in his face and on his driver's license. He's young in experience.

Figuring out the enormity and relentlessness of a six-month, 162-game season is all part of it. Ruiz, the catcher, followed a torrid 30-game stretch in which he hit .358/.423/.596 — including six homers and eight doubles — with a tepid .216/.245/.294 stretch in 14 games since. Gray was an all-star in July, but his ERA across six August and September starts is 8.49, and he has walked nearly a batter an inning in that period (21 free passes in 23⅓ frames). Throw in an out-of-character outburst after Young lost a ball in the sun Sunday, and the need for growth is apparent all over the place.

There can be no plugging in players and assuming they will produce because they factor high in prospect rankings. That ignores the work — by coaches and development staff — that has to be done. Dylan Crews, the second overall pick in the draft, tore through low Class A Fredericksburg with a 1.068 OPS in 14 games to earn a promotion to Class AA Harrisburg, skipping a level. His first dozen games there: a .525 OPS. Last year's first-round pick, outfielder Elijah Green, has struck out in a whopping 41.6 percent of his 346 plate appearances. Outfielder Robert Hassell III is slashing a meager .215/.312/.316 at Harrisburg.

Is that cherry-picking? Sure. Lump those guys together with James Wood and Brady House at Class AA, Daylen Lile, Yohandy Morales and Andrew Pinckney at high Class A, and others, and not all of them have to work out for the Nats to have their next core on the way. Which is good. Because they won't all work out.

Ask García. He played 100 games this season as the Nats' second baseman of the present and the future — and then was sent to the minors. General Manager Mike Rizzo — the architect of this rebuild, who hasn't yet signed a contract for next season — said on 106.7 the Fan this week that the demotion was a "preparation assignment." That's code for: "Hey, Luis. Get in shape, and learn how to be a pro." He's on his way back to the majors this weekend. We will see whether the lesson took.

Whether the lessons of the past six months took could be asked of the entire organization over the final four weeks of the season. The remaining games matter. They matter in how individual players prepare and push through. They matter in assessing what needs will be paramount in the offseason. They matter in sorting out who has developed the professionalism to endure and excel over 162 games, and who still needs work.

Through two trade deadlines and two or three drafts, the Nats seem to have assembled many of the pieces that could lift them back to prominence. But the pieces don't make the puzzle by themselves. There's a lot of work behind them. There's more ahead.

JOHN MCDONNELL/THE WASHINGTON POST

Jacob Young, who had a game-winning hit Wednesday, is getting a long look in the majors but may not be part of the Nationals' long-term future.

NATIONALS ON DECK

vs. Los Angeles Dodgers

Today	7:05	MASN2
Tomorrow	4:05	MASN2
Sunday	1:35	MASN2

at Pittsburgh Pirates

Monday	6:35	MASN2
Tuesday	6:35	MASN2
Wednesday	6:35	MASN2
Thursday	12:35	MASN

at Milwaukee Brewers

Sept. 15	8:10	MASN
Sept. 16	7:10	MASN2
Sept. 17	2:10	MASN2

Radio: WJFK (106.7 FM)

NL WILD-CARD STANDINGS

Team	W	L	Pct	WCGB
Philadelphia	77	62	.554	+5
Chicago	76	65	.539	+3
Arizona	73	68	.518	—
Miami	72	68	.514	½
Cincinnati	73	69	.514	½
San Francisco	70	70	.500	2½

AL WILD-CARD STANDINGS

Team	W	L	Pct	WCGB
Tampa Bay	85	56	.603	+7½
Seattle	79	61	.564	+2
Toronto	77	63	.550	—
Texas	76	63	.547	½
Boston	72	68	.514	5

NL leaders

Entering Friday's games.

BATTING

Arraez, Mia .353
Freeman, LA .333
Acuña Jr., Atl .331
Bellinger, Chi .320
Betts, LA .314
Harris II, Atl .294
Stott, Phi .294
Harper, Phi .293
Thomas, Was .285
Carroll, Ari .281

HOME RUNS

Olson, Atl 47
Alonso, NY 42
Schwarber, Phi 41
Betts, LA 38
Soler, Mia 35
Riley, Atl 34
Acuña Jr., Atl 34
Ozuna, Atl 33
Muncy, LA 32
Walker, Ari 30

RBI

Olson, Atl 116
Alonso, NY 102
Betts, LA 99
Muncy, LA 91
Albies, Atl 91
Walker, Ari 91
Freeman, LA 91
Schwarber, Phi 90
Acuña Jr., Atl 88
Arenado, StL 87

HITS

Acuña Jr., Atl 187
Arraez, Mia 185
Freeman, LA 183
Betts, LA 162
Hoerner, Chi 153
Thomas, Was 153
Riley, Atl 152
Stott, Phi 150
Castellanos, Phi 149

ERA

Snell, SD 2.50
Steele, Chi 2.55
Senga, NY 3.08
Kelly, Ari 3.22
Morton, Atl 3.32
Elder, Atl 3.42
Gallen, Ari 3.48
Wheeler, Phi 3.49
Webb, SF 3.51

SAVES

Doval, SF 35
Díaz, Cin 35
Bednar, Pit 33
Williams, Mil 32
Hader, SD 28
Iglesias, Atl 28
Finnegan, Was 25
Alzolay, Chi 22
Kimbrel, Phi 22

INNINGS PITCHED

Webb, SF 187
Alcantara, Mia 184⅔
Gallen, Ari 178⅔
Nola, Phi 172
Burnes, Mil 171
Mikolas, StL 171
Wheeler, Phi 170
Keller, Pit 169⅔
Strider, Atl 162

STRIKEOUTS

Strider, Atl 250
Snell, SD 201
Wheeler, Phi 192
Peralta, Mil 191
Keller, Pit 187
Gallen, Ari 186
Luzardo, Mia 181
Nola, Phi 179

AL leaders

Entering Thursday's games.

BATTING

Seager, Tex .339
Díaz, TB .320
Bichette, Tor .314
Ohtani, LA .304
Yoshida, Bos .292
Tucker, Hou .290
Merrifield, Tor .283
Turner, Bos .282
Rodríguez, Sea .282

HOME RUNS

Ohtani, LA 44
Robert Jr., Chi 35
García, Tex 34
Judge, NY 31
Devers, Bos 29
Seager, Tex 28
Paredes, TB 28
Witt Jr., KC 28
Rodríguez, Sea 27

RBI

García, Tex 100
Tucker, Hou 99
Ohtani, LA 95
Rodríguez, Sea 93
Bregman, Hou 92
Turner, Bos 91
Devers, Bos 91
Paredes, TB 87
Hernández, Sea 86
Witt Jr., KC 85
Semien, Tex 85

HITS

Semien, Tex 160
Rodríguez, Sea 159
Witt Jr., KC 153
Bichette, Tor 152
Ohtani, LA 151
Kwan, Cle 149
Lowe, Tex 149
Bregman, Hou 148

ERA

Cole, NY 2.90
Gray, Min 2.98
Bradish, Bal 3.03
Castillo, Sea 3.19
Valdez, Hou 3.30
Gausman, Tor 3.39
Kirby, Sea 3.39
Eflin, TB 3.47
Gilbert, Sea 3.61

SAVES

Clase, Cle 38
Bautista, Bal 33
Romano, Tor 32
Estévez, LA 29
Jansen, Bos 29
Pressly, Hou 29
Duran, Min 24
Smith, Tex 22

INNINGS PITCHED

Cole, NY 180
Valdez, Hou 174⅔
Bassitt, Tor 173⅓
López, Min 170⅔
Castillo, Sea 169⅓
Gibson, Bal 168⅔
Gilbert, Sea 167
Berríos, Tor 164
Gray, Min 163

STRIKEOUTS

Gausman, Tor 207
López, Min 199
Cole, NY 195
Castillo, Sea 183
Cease, Chi 183
Gilbert, Sea 171
Ryan, Min 169
Giolito, Cle 168
Valdez, Hou 168
Ohtani, LA 167

NOTES

PERSONNEL DEPT.

Braves: RHP Michael Soroka will not need surgery on his ailing right forearm, a positive result after tests showed no tear. The 26-year-old is out for the season after being placed on the injured list Wednesday.

Diamondbacks: Called up SS Jordan Lawlar, the team's top prospect, from Class AAA Reno to make his major league debut against the Cubs.

Rangers: Placed Adolis García, the AL leader with 100 RBI, on the 10-day IL with a right patella tendon strain. To take his place, OF Evan Carter, the team's top prospect, was called up from Class AAA Round Rock.

Tigers: RHP Matt Manning landed on the 15-day IL and will miss the rest of the season with a broken right foot.

BY THE NUMBERS

16

Home runs by the Astros in a three-game sweep of the Rangers, their most in a three-game span.

TODAY

NL games

DODGERS AT NATIONALS, 7:05	W-L	ERA	TEAM
Sheehan (R)	3-1	5.32	4-4
Gore (L)	7-10	4.28	10-16
DIAMONDBACKS AT CUBS, 2:20			
Gallen (R)	14-7	3.48	16-13
Taillon (R)	7-9	5.51	10-15
CARDINALS AT REDS, 6:40			
Rom (L)	0-2	7.24	0-3
Abbott (L)	8-4	3.22	13-4
MARLINS AT PHILLIES, 7:05			
Pérez (R)	5-4	2.86	7-9
Sánchez (L)	2-3	3.48	7-7
PIRATES AT BRAVES, 7:20			
Keller (R)	11-8	3.92	15-13
Elder (R)	11-4	3.42	19-8
ROCKIES AT GIANTS, 10:15			
Blach (L)	2-1	4.33	3-5
Harrison (L)	1-1	4.70	1-2

NL scores

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

at Washington 3, N.Y. Mets 2
at Pittsburgh 5, Milwaukee 4
at Chicago Cubs 8, San Francisco 2
at Arizona 12, Colorado 5
Philadelphia 5, at San Diego 1
at Miami 11, L.A. Dodgers 4
St. Louis 11, at Atlanta 6

THURSDAY'S RESULTS

L.A. Dodgers 10, at Miami 0
at Atlanta 8, St. Louis 5
Arizona 6, at Chicago Cubs 2

AL games

ORIOLES AT RED SOX, 7:10	W-L	ERA	TEAM
Bradish (R)	10-6	3.03	17-8
Houck (R)	4-8	5.07	7-9
WHITE SOX AT TIGERS, 6:40			
Clevinger (R)	6-7	3.90	9-10
Olson (R)	3-6	4.65	7-7
MARINERS AT RAYS, 6:40			
Kirby (R)	10-9	3.39	14-12
Bradley (R)	5-7	5.42	7-10
ROYALS AT BLUE JAYS, 7:07			
TBD	----	----	----
Kikuchi (L)	9-5	3.63	17-10
ATHLETICS AT RANGERS, 8:05			
Blackburn (R)	4-4	3.81	9-7
Montgomery (L)	8-10	3.46	9-18
GUARDIANS AT ANGELS, 9:38			
Allen (L)	6-7	3.77	13-8
Canning (R)	7-5	4.30	10-8

AL scores

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

Baltimore 10, at L.A. Angels 3
at Cleveland 2, Minnesota 1
at Oakland 5, Toronto 2
at Tampa Bay 3, Boston 1
at N.Y. Yankees 4, Detroit 3
Chicago White Sox 6, at Kansas City 4
Houston 12, at Texas 3

THURSDAY'S RESULTS

Seattle 1, at Tampa Bay 0
Detroit 10, at N.Y. Yankees 3
Cleveland at L.A. Angels, late

Interleague games

BREWERS AT YANKEES, 7:05	W-L	ERA	TEAM
Rea (R)	5-5	5.07	12-8
Severino (R)	4-8	6.75	8-9
METS AT TWINS, 8:10			
Senga (R)	10-7	3.08	15-10
Keuchel (L)	1-1	5.06	3-1
PADRES AT ASTROS, 8:10			
Snell (L)	12-9	2.50	14-14
Brown (R)	10-10	4.53	13-12

Interleague scores

WEDNESDAY'S RESULT

Seattle 8, at Cincinnati 4

THURSDAY'S RESULTS

No games scheduled.

Mariners 1, Rays 0

Luis Castillo went six innings to win his sixth consecutive decision, Mike Ford drove in a run, and Seattle beat Tampa Bay in a matchup of playoff contenders.

Castillo worked out of two-on, one-out jams in each of the first three innings.

Seattle moved within a half-game of Houston for the AL West lead and is 5½ games back of the Rays for the top wild card.

MARINERS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Crawford ss	4	0	0	0	0	0	.269
Rodríguez cf	4	0	0	0	0	1	.280
Raleigh c	4	0	1	0	0	1	.235
Hernández rf	4	0	2	0	0	1	.271
Canzone lf	4	0	0	0	0	1	.229
Suárez 3b	3	1	1	0	0	1	.232
France 1b	3	0	0	0	0	0	.253
Ford dh	3	0	1	1	0	1	.233
Rojas 2b	2	0	0	0	1	0	.272
TOTALS	31	1	5	1	1	6	—

RAYS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Díaz 1b	4	0	0	0	0	0	.317
B.Lowe dh	4	0	1	0	0	2	.234
Arozarena lf	2	0	0	0	2	1	.255
J.Lowe rf	3	0	1	0	1	1	.283
Paredes 3b	4	0	0	0	0	1	.249
Raley cf	3	0	1	0	0	1	.251
Walls ss	3	0	0	0	1	3	.213
Aranda 2b	3	0	1	0	1	2	.225
Bethancourt c	3	0	0	0	0	2	.224
H.Ramírez ph	1	0	0	0	0	1	.299
TOTALS	30	0	4	0	5	14	—

				R	H	E
SEATTLE	010	000	000	1	5	1
TAMPA BAY	000	000	000	0	4	0

E: Rojas (4). **LOB:** Seattle 4, Tampa Bay 9. **2B:** Suárez (24), B.Lowe (13).

MARINERS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Castillo	6	4	0	0	4	8	3.08
Campbell	1	0	0	0	0	3	2.11
Brash	1	0	0	0	0	1	3.25
Muñoz	1	0	0	0	1	2	3.02

RAYS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Littell	8	5	1	1	1	4	4.08
Kittredge	1	0	0	0	0	2	6.23

WP: Castillo (12-7); **LP:** Littell (3-5); **S:** Muñoz (12). **HBP:** Muñoz (Raley). **T:** 2:19. **A:** 10,060 (25,025).

Dodgers 10, Marlins 0

Rookie Ryan Pepiot pitched a perfect game for 6⅔ innings, and Los Angeles routed Miami for just its second win in seven games.

Josh Bell grounded a single up the middle in the seventh for the only hit off Pepiot.

DODGERS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Betts rf	2	1	1	0	2	1	.314
Busch 1b	1	0	0	0	0	0	.167
Freeman 1b	4	1	1	1	1	0	.333
Outman cf	1	0	0	0	0	0	.254
Smith dh	6	2	3	1	0	0	.273
Rosario 2b	5	1	2	2	0	1	.250
Muncy 3b	3	3	1	0	1	2	.204
Taylor lf	5	1	3	5	0	0	.233
Hernández cf-rf	4	0	2	1	1	1	.257
Rojas ss	5	1	3	0	0	0	.228
Barnes c	5	0	0	0	0	1	.162
TOTALS	41	10	16	10	5	6	—

MARLINS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Arraez 1b	3	0	0	0	0	0	.353
Gurriel 1b	1	0	0	0	0	0	.250
Burger 3b	3	0	0	0	0	1	.306
Berti 3b	1	0	0	0	0	1	.281
Bell dh	3	0	1	0	0	1	.274
Chisholm Jr. cf	3	0	0	0	0	1	.257
Myers cf	0	0	0	0	0	0	.283
De La Cruz lf	2	0	0	0	0	0	.257
Hampson ph-lf	1	0	1	0	0	0	.276
Sánchez rf	3	0	0	0	0	1	.272
Edwards 2b	3	0	0	0	0	1	.324
Wendle ss	3	0	0	0	0	0	.225
Fortes c	3	0	0	0	0	0	.202
TOTALS	29	0	2	0	0	6	—

				R	H	E
L.A.	001	024	030	10	16	0
MIAMI	000	000	000	0	2	2

E: Garrett (1), Burger (1). **LOB:** Los Angeles 11, Miami 2. **2B:** Hernández (11), Freeman (52), Taylor (13). **3B:** Rojas (1). **HR:** Taylor (15), off Smeltzer.

DODGERS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Pepiot	7	1	0	0	0	3	0.86
Ferguson	1	1	0	0	0	2	2.60
Phillips	1	0	0	0	0	1	2.22

MARLINS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Garrett	3⅔	3	1	1	3	4	3.82
Chargois	⅓	0	0	0	0	1	3.63
Soriano	1⅓	6	5	5	2	0	3.51
Smeltzer	3⅔	7	4	4	0	1	6.45

WP: Pepiot (2-0); **LP:** Garrett (8-6). **Inherited runners-scored:** Chargois 2-0, Smeltzer 1-0. **HBP:** Garrett (Betts), Smeltzer (Muncy). **T:** 2:40. **A:** 12,047 (37,446).

Tigers 10, Yankees 3

Spencer Torkelson slugged a pair of two-run home runs for his fifth multihomer game of the season as Detroit ended New York's five-game winning streak.

Leadoff batter Matt Vierling had four hits, four runs and two RBI for the Tigers.

TIGERS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Vierling cf-lf	5	4	4	2	0	1	.267
Baddoo lf	0	0	0	0	0	0	.224
Torkelson 1b	4	2	2	4	1	1	.233
Ibáñez 2b	4	1	2	3	0	1	.247
Rogers c	5	0	1	0	0	3	.206
M.Cabrera dh	5	0	0	0	0	3	.254
Carpenter rf	5	1	2	0	0	1	.293
Báez ss	4	0	0	0	1	3	.222
Nevin lf	4	1	1	1	0	1	.140
Meadows cf	0	0	0	0	0	0	.250
Lipcius 3b	4	1	2	0	0	0	.250
TOTALS	40	10	14	10	2	14	—

YANKEES	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
LeMahieu 1b	3	0	1	0	1	0	.244
Bauers 1b	1	0	0	0	0	1	.207
Judge rf	4	0	0	0	0	1	.263
O.Cabrera rf	0	0	0	0	0	0	.210
Domínguez cf	3	0	0	0	1	1	.292
Torres 2b	3	2	2	1	1	0	.275
Stanton dh	3	0	0	0	1	2	.201
Volpe ss	3	1	1	0	1	2	.216
Higashioka c	3	0	0	0	1	1	.222
Pereira lf	4	0	1	2	0	1	.151
Peraza 3b	4	0	1	0	0	0	.183
TOTALS	31	3	6	3	6	9	—

				R	H	E
DETROIT	202	400	020	10	14	0
NEW YORK	010	200	000	3	6	1

E: Abreu (2). **LOB:** Detroit 6, New York 7. **2B:** Vierling 2 (15), Nevin (1), Pereira (3). **HR:** Torkelson (26), off Rodón; Torkelson (27), off Vásquez; Ibáñez (10), off Abreu; Torres (25), off Rodriguez.

TIGERS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Rodriguez	6	4	3	3	4	4	3.18
Vest	1	0	0	0	0	2	3.35
Díaz	1	1	0	0	1	1	0.00
Wingenter	1	1	0	0	1	2	6.30

YANKEES	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Rodón	3⅔	8	7	7	0	4	6.60
Vásquez	2⅓	3	1	1	2	5	2.36
Abreu	2	3	2	2	0	3	4.73
Krook	1	0	0	0	0	2	15.7

WP: Rodriguez (11-7); **LP:** Rodón (2-5). **Inherited runners-scored:** Vásquez 1-1. **WP:** Rodón, Vásquez. **T:** 2:43. **A:** 32,722 (47,309).

Braves 8, Cardinals 5

Ronald Acuña Jr. hit two of Atlanta's five home runs, Matt Olson increased his major league-leading total to 47 by homering in his fourth straight game, and the Braves beat St. Louis's Adam Wainwright, who lost his seventh straight start.

Max Fried improved to 5-0 in his past seven starts for Atlanta.

CARDINALS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Edman cf	4	0	2	3	0	2	.249
O'Neill lf	5	0	1	0	0	1	.241
Goldschmidt dh	4	0	1	0	0	2	.277
Arenado 3b	4	0	1	0	0	1	.270
Walker rf	4	1	0	0	0	0	.275
Baker 1b	2	1	0	0	1	0	.209
Burleson ph	0	1	0	0	1	0	.245
Gorman 2b	3	2	2	0	1	0	.236
Knizner c	2	0	0	1	0	1	.241
Nootbaar ph	0	0	0	0	1	0	.274
Winn ss	4	0	1	1	0	1	.167
TOTALS	32	5	8	5	4	8	—

BRAVES	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Acuña Jr. rf	5	2	2	2	0	0	.331
Albies 2b	3	1	0	0	1	1	.267
Olson 1b	3	2	2	1	1	0	.272
Ozuna dh	4	0	1	0	0	2	.272
Rosario lf	4	1	3	2	0	0	.263
d'Arnaud c	4	1	1	2	0	0	.243
Harris II cf	4	1	1	1	0	0	.294
Arcia ss	4	0	0	0	0	2	.276
Lopez 3b	3	0	0	0	1	1	.289
TOTALS	34	8	10	8	3	6	—

				R	H	E
ST. LOUIS	030	000	002	5	8	0
ATLANTA	300	012	20X	8	10	0

LOB: St. Louis 6, Atlanta 5. **2B:** Gorman (17), Olson (25). **HR:** Acuña Jr. 2 (34), off Wainwright; Olson (47), off Wainwright; Harris II (14), off Wainwright; d'Arnaud (11), off Barnes.

CARDINALS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Wainwright	5⅔	8	6	6	3	4	8.19
Barnes	1	2	2	2	0	1	12.6
Liberatore	1⅓	0	0	0	0	1	5.96

BRAVES	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Fried	6	6	3	3	2	4	2.70
Johnson	1	0	0	0	0	2	2.12
Minter	1	0	0	0	0	2	4.02
Iglesias	1	2	2	2	2	0	2.89

WP: Fried (7-1); **LP:** Wainwright (3-11). **HBP:** Fried (Knizner). **T:** 2:45. **A:** 34,349 (41,149).

Diamondbacks 6, Cubs 2

Tommy Pham hit two first-pitch home runs, Ryne Nelson was efficient on the mound in his return from the minors, and Arizona beat Chicago.

Ketel Marte added his 22nd homer to help the Diamondbacks win their second straight.

D'BACKS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Carroll rf	5	1	2	0	0	1	.281
Marte 2b	4	2	2	3	1	0	.277
Pham lf	5	2	2	3	0	0	.250
Walker 1b	4	0	1	0	0	0	.273
Thomas cf	4	0	0	0	0	0	.238
Moreno c	2	0	1	0	2	1	.282
Smith dh	3	0	0	0	1	0	.184
Lawlar ss	4	0	1	0	0	1	.250
Rivera 3b	0	0	0	0	0	0	.263
Perdomo 3b-ss	4	1	1	0	0	0	.266
TOTALS	35	6	10	6	4	3	—

CUBS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Tauchman cf	2	0	0	0	1	1	.257
Madrigal ph	1	0	0	0	0	0	.267
Hoerner 2b	4	1	2	0	0	0	.280
Happ lf	3	0	0	0	1	2	.246
Bellinger 1b	4	0	1	0	0	0	.320
Swanson ss	4	0	1	1	0	0	.245
Suzuki rf	4	1	1	0	0	2	.275
Candelario 3b	2	0	0	1	0	1	.250
Gomes c	3	0	0	0	0	0	.272
Morel dh	3	0	0	0	0	1	.245
TOTALS	30	2	5	2	2	7	—

				R	H	E
ARIZONA	102	000	021	6	10	0
CHICAGO	000	010	001	2	5	1

E: Bellinger (4). **LOB:** Arizona 6, Chicago 4. **2B:** Hoerner (26). **3B:** Suzuki (5). **HR:** Pham (4), off Assad; Marte (22), off Assad; Pham (5), off K.Thompson.

D'BACKS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
R.Nelson	5⅔	2	1	1	2	3	5.30
Saalfrank	⅓	0	0	0	0	1	0.00
R.Thompson	1	0	0	0	0	1	0.00
Ginkel	1	0	0	0	0	1	2.34
Mantiply	⅔	3	1	1	0	1	5.83
Sewald	⅓	0	0	0	0	0	4.50

CUBS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Assad	5⅓	7	3	3	1	0	2.83
K.Thompson	2⅔	1	2	2	3	2	4.71
Wesneski	1⅓	2	1	1	0	1	4.86

WP: R.Nelson (7-7); **LP:** Assad (3-3); **S:** Sewald (10). **Inherited runners-scored:** Saalfrank 1-0, Sewald 2-0, K.Thompson 1-0, Wesneski 2-0. **WP:** Assad. **T:** 2:34. **A:** 28,814 (41,363).

Orioles 10, Angels 3

Late Wednesday

ORIOLES	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Rutschman dh	5	0	0	0	1	0	.272
Mountcastle 1b	4	2	1	0	1	0	.278
Santander rf	4	2	3	3	1	1	.261
Mullins cf	0	0	0	0	0	0	.247
Hays lf	4	3	4	4	0	0	.288
Henderson 3b	5	0	0	0	0	0	.251
Urías 2b	5	0	3	1	0	0	.266
Hicks cf-rf	4	0	1	2	1	1	.262
McCann c	4	1	0	0	1	1	.224
Mateo ss	4	2	0	0	1	3	.211
TOTALS	39	10	12	10	6	6	—

ANGELS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Schanuel 1b	4	0	1	0	0	0	.286
Drury 2b	4	1	3	0	0	0	.268
Rengifo ss	4	1	2	2	0	0	.264
Moustakas 3b	2	0	0	1	0	0	.246
Paris ph	1	0	0	0	0	1	.077
O'Hoppe c	4	0	0	0	0	1	.213
Thaiss dh	4	0	0	0	0	1	.218
Cabbage rf	2	0	0	0	1	0	.213
Grichuk lf	3	0	1	0	0	0	.183
Phillips cf	2	1	0	0	1	2	.067
TOTALS	30	3	7	3	2	5	—

				R	H	E
BALTIMORE	014	002	030	10	12	0
L.A.	002	001	000	3	7	1

E: Rengifo (12). **LOB:** Baltimore 9, Los Angeles 3. **2B:** Hays (34), Drury (24). **3B:** Drury (3). **HR:** Santander (27), off Barría; Hays (14), off Barría; Rengifo (16), off Gibson. **RBI:** Urías (39), Hays 4 (58), Hicks 2 (23), Santander 3 (82), Rengifo 2 (51), Moustakas (29). **SB:** Mateo (28). **SF:** Hays, Moustakas.

ORIOLES	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Gibson	6	6	3	3	2	3	5.12
Pérez	1	0	0	0	0	0	3.40
Fujinami	1	1	0	0	0	1	4.50
Irvin	1	0	0	0	0	1	4.84

ANGELS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Sandoval	5	7	7	4	4	3	4.31
Barría	3	5	3	3	1	1	5.67
Reyes	1	0	0	0	1	2	7.45

WP: Gibson (14-8); **LP:** Sandoval (7-12). **Inherited runners-scored:** Barría 2-2. **WP:** Reyes. **T:** 2:56. **A:** 29,021 (45,517).

ORIOLES' LEADERS

Entering Friday's game.

Batters	Avg	R	H	2B	HR	RBI	BB
O'Hearn	.303	37	82	18	11	50	13
Hays	.288	68	130	34	14	58	32
Mountcastle	.278	62	111	20	18	67	32
Rutschman	.272	72	139	23	17	67	77
Westburg	.268	22	45	14	2	20	11
Urías	.266	41	85	22	4	39	24
Hicks	.262	25	39	4	6	23	23
Santander	.261	73	131	34	27	82	50

Hokies will continue to play multiple quarterbacks

Wells is still the starter, but Drones remains firmly in the mix

BY GENE WANG

ROBERT SIMMONS/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Returning starting quarterback Grant Wells took nearly all of the snaps in Virginia Tech's opener.

On Virginia Tech's first snap of the second quarter in Saturday's season opener against Old Dominion, quarterback Grant Wells surveyed the field with a clean pocket around him, spotted wide receiver Jaylin Lane running a shallow cross toward the left boundary and delivered a strike for a 20-yard touchdown.

The play came after Wells made a handful of errant throws in the first quarter while sharing time with Kyron Drones, whom Coach Brent Pry had envisioned would provide a change of pace. But Wells took nearly every snap the rest of the way, completing 17 of 29 passes for 251 yards and three touchdowns with no interceptions to fuel a 36-17 victory at Lane Stadium.

Wells added a rushing touchdown in a striking contrast to his debut last season, when he tossed four interceptions in a disheartening 20-17 road loss to the Monarchs. The redshirt senior's steady performance Saturday kept Drones mostly on the bench, but the sophomore transfer from Baylor continues to be firmly in the mix, Pry said, including when the Hokies play visiting Purdue on Saturday.

"Honestly, I think he came into the game pretty confident," Pry said of Wells. "He had a good camp. It's like we mentioned last year: There just wasn't a lot of support around him. I think the ability of our wideouts, our tight ends — I thought our line protected much better to give him the chance to be the player that he can be."

As the presumptive starting quarterback of the future, Drones is set to learn on the field this season behind Wells, a transfer from Marshall before last season who won the starting job in fall camp this year based largely on his familiarity with the offense under second-year coordinator Tyler Bowen.

"I thought it was good to see Kyron out there early, get his feet wet," Pry said. Inserting Drones again "was talked about multiple times on the headset in the second half, and we weren't going to force it at that point. The plan will remain the same regardless of how well Grant plays. This is about Kyron's development and another element to our offense."

Wells, at least for one game, validated the coaching staff's decision to name him the starter even though Drones narrowed the gap over the summer. Wells, by all accounts, had been significantly ahead in the competition during spring practice until Drones provided reasons to delay an official announcement regarding the starter.

Drones came to Blacksburg following two seasons at Baylor, where the decorated recruit from Pearland, Tex., appeared in seven games in 2022 after redshirting in 2021. He led his high school team to a 16-0 record and the state championship as a senior and received offers from Auburn, Mississippi and Texas Christian, among other schools.

"A lot of competition," Wells said of how much Drones pushed him for the starting job. "There was competition since Day One. I knew that coming in. I think he had a pretty good idea there was going to be some competition, and I wouldn't have had it any other way. There were days when I was getting pretty frustrated because he was having a good day and vice versa. That only makes us better."

Wells, meanwhile, entered this season with redemption in mind after an uneven 2022, when he threw for 2,171 yards with nine touchdowns and nine interceptions in 11 starts. The Conference USA freshman of the year in 2020 completed 196 of 332 attempts and was sacked 30 times as one of the centerpieces in Pry's program rebuild.

Wells's completion percentage (59.0) ranked 10th in the ACC last season, and he was second to last in efficiency among quarterbacks with enough attempts to qualify. Only two quarterbacks threw more interceptions than Wells, and only three regular starters in the conference passed for fewer yards.

The Hokies thus sought to upgrade around him, and the transfer portal yielded Lane from Middle Tennessee State and fellow wide receivers Da'Quan Felton (Norfolk State) and Ali Jennings (Old Dominion).

Jennings had five catches for 122 yards against Virginia Tech in last season's opener and led the Hokies in receiving Saturday with five receptions for 72 yards and two touchdowns.

Lane added four catches for 69 yards and one touchdown, and Felton had one reception for 34 yards.

"I'm excited about our receiving room," Wells said. "They were pretty excited to get into Lane Stadium, and they were in my ear the entire game trying to throw the ball more, so anytime you have that happen, that's a pretty good sign."

WNBA ROUNDUP

New York wins, Ionescu sets three-pointer mark

LIBERTY 96, SPARKS 89

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Breanna Stewart had 25 points and Sabrina Ionescu broke the single-season three-pointer record to help the New York Liberty beat the visiting Los Angeles Sparks, 96-89, on Thursday night for its eighth straight win.

New York (32-7) moved a half-game behind the Las Vegas Aces for the No. 1 seed in the playoffs.

Meanwhile, Los Angeles (16-23) fell a half-game behind the Chicago Sky for the final playoff spot.

Ionescu topped Diana Taurasi's single-season three-point mark and now has 124 this year.

"It's an honor anytime you're able to pass arguably the greatest basketball player that ever played in the WNBA," Ionescu said.

The Liberty's star guard missed all eight of her shots in the first half, including six three-pointers, before getting going in the second half. Ionescu made a three with 9:12 left in the third quarter to tie Taurasi's mark of 121 set in 2006. Ionescu then broke the 17-year-old record with a shot she banked in from the corner two minutes later.

"That's a great accomplishment. Diana is one of the greatest of all time, and Sabrina's like a little Diana," said New York Coach Sandy Brondello, who also coached Taurasi with the Phoenix Mercury. "She's worked at that — she's a much better shooter than she was last year."

Shortly after Ionescu set the record, Stefanie Dolson also got hot from behind the arc. The Liberty trailed by 13 midway through the third quarter before she got going. Dolson, who finished with 17 points, hit five three-pointers over a five-minute stretch as New York took its first lead since the opening period.

Her fourth and fifth threes sent the crowd into a frenzy and gave the Liberty an 81-78 lead with 7:23 left. That started a 17-4 run that put the game away. New York hit 17 of 34 from behind the arc in the game.

"After the first couple went in, I had a lot of confidence," Dolson said.

Layshia Clarendon scored a career-high 30 points to lead the Sparks.

The Liberty was up 21-14 in the first quarter before Los Angeles scored 12 straight, including the final nine of the opening period. The Sparks extended the lead to 14 in the second before Stewart got New York back within 50-43 at the half. She had 21 points in the opening 20 minutes.

Los Angeles has been decimated by injuries all season, and Thursday night's game was no different. Nneka Ogwumike (knee), Chiney Ogwumike (foot), Karlie Samuelson (abdomen), Lexie Brown (non-covid illness), Nia Clouden (knee) and Katie Lou Samuelson (maternity leave) were all out. That left the Sparks with eight healthy players.

Williams's charges dropped

Criminal charges were dropped against Las Vegas Aces guard Riquna Williams after the alleged victim in a July domestic violence incident at their home stopped cooperating with prosecutors ahead of a preliminary hearing to determine whether the case should go to trial.

Williams's attorney, Brandon Albright, told reporters that his client hopes to rejoin the team for the WNBA playoffs that begin next week. Williams did not speak in court and declined outside court to comment.

The 33-year-old shooting guard nicknamed "Bay Bay" was a key member of last year's Aces championship run. But she hasn't played this season because of a back injury. She is on the roster but was barred from the team following her arrest.

Outside the courtroom, Albright said Williams was "cleared physically to be on the court, and this case was the final hurdle to allow her to rejoin her teammates."

Aces officials did not immediately respond to requests for comment on Williams's status.

GOLF ROUNDUP

Ryder Cup decisions cast long shadow at Irish Open

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Shane Lowry needs a good week at the Irish Open to justify getting picked for the Ryder Cup.

Adrian Meronk wants one to show Europe captain Luke Donald was wrong to leave him off the team.

Both got off to a decent start Thursday.

Lowry made seven birdies and shot a 4-under-par 68 at the K Club in Straffan to sit three shots off the lead held by Shubhankar Sharma of India after the first round of the European tour event.

Aggrieved at being overlooked by Donald, Meronk began birdie-birdie and shot a 69 in a solid start to his title defense.

On a day when Rory McIlroy — the big draw this week along with home favorite Lowry — felt the love of the crowds and also shot a 69, Sharma produced a bogey-free round of 65 in sweltering conditions in the afternoon to finish with a one-stroke lead over five players: Englishmen Jordan Smith and Ross Fisher, Marcel Schneider of Germany, Kristian Krogh Johannessen of Norway and 52-year-old Dane Thomas Bjorn, who knows all about the joy and pain of Ryder Cup selection.

Bjorn was the winning Ryder Cup captain from Le Golf National in 2018 who, 12 years earlier, called Ian Woosnam "the most pathetic captain I have ever seen" after being snubbed for a pick for the 2006 event at the K Club.

• **LPGA TOUR:** Ruixin Liu of China was still suffering from allergies that forced her to withdraw from the tour event last week. It didn't stop her from posting a 7-under 65 for her best round of the year and a one-shot lead in the Queen City Championship in Cincinnati.

Liu started so well that her lone regret was a par on the 12th hole in which she hit her approach to 18 feet on the par 5 and three-putted for par. She had seven birdies through 13 holes.

Liu had a one-shot lead at Kenwood Country Club over Peiyun Chien, Elizabeth Szokol, Dottie Ardina and Linnea Strom.

Gauff overcomes significant delay to march into U.S. Open final

U.S. OPEN FROM D1

to make the final in New York since Serena Williams in 2001.

If the path here felt winding, it wasn't long at all.

Sixty-six days ago, Gauff sat in a room well above the manicured grass courts of Wimbledon as darkness fell. She looked somehow younger than her teenage years as she conveyed her disappointment after a surprising first-round loss.

"I feel like I have been working hard, but clearly it's not enough," Gauff said at the time, adding that she would be going "back to the drawing board."

The weeks that ensued brought a flurry of change: two new coaches, Pere Riba and Brad Gilbert, and a shift in dynamic on her team — Gauff's father and longtime coach, Corey, now operates from the happy position of "just dad." There was an attitude shift, too, as Gauff vowed to play with more joy on court and relax a little. Last month in Washington, before she won the first of two titles she has collected since Wimbledon, Gauff said she was in a building phase.

Think of her game like a house, Gauff said. She had the land and a strong foundation but wanted to make it "as extravagant and big and pretty as possible."

Her play since has certainly been big and pretty, but extravagant might be a stretch. Gauff, who lost the only other Grand Slam final she contested at Roland Garros in 2022, employed the quite reasonable combination of athleticism and problem-solving to pick apart a wide range of opponents on the way to Thursday's match: hard-hitting 2017 French Open champion Jelena Ostapenko; relentless defender and 2018 Australian Open champion Caroline Wozniacki; precocious 16-year-old Mira Andreeva; and accomplished tour veterans Laura Siegemund and Elise Mertens, surprising herself with each win.

"Honestly, when I had that [loss] at Wimbledon, I was really sort of thinking for offseason and preparing for next year. You know, I still think I have a lot to improve, but yeah, 100 percent I wasn't thinking these results would happen," said Gauff, who also won in Cincinnati earlier in the summer. "Even after D.C., didn't think this would happen. Even after Cincy, didn't think this would happen. I'm really proud of myself, and like I said, there is still a long ways to go."

MANU FERNANDEZ/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Coco Gauff defeated Karolina Muchova, 6-4, 7-5, using a marathon, 40-shot rally late in the match to overcome several lost match points.

Muchova, the 10th seed, presented yet another new challenge.

A French Open finalist this year, the 27-year-old Czech is an intelligent player who excels at crafting complex traps rather than blowing opponents off the court with power. She began the match with a compression sleeve on her right serving arm and took some time to click into gear, falling into a 1-5 hole before storming back to win three games in a row.

Gauff regrouped and won the set on Muchova's serve. She won the first game of the second set before the match stopped for nearly an hour because of a protest staged by climate activists wearing shirts that read "End Fossil Fuels." One protester glued his feet to the ground and refused to leave until more than 10 police officers arrived to lead him out of the stadium in handcuffs.

"There were three. Two were removed. They quietly left without further protest," tournament chair Stacey Allaster said in an interview on ESPN near the end of the stoppage. "When security got there, they found that one of the protesters had physically glued themselves in bare feet to the cement floor."

Four protesters in total were taken in to police custody, according to a statement from the U.S. Tennis Association.

During the pause, both players retreated to the locker room, where Gauff chatted with her team and Muchova appeared to receive treatment on both her abdomen and right arm. The Czech initially asked whether she could take a medical timeout shortly after play stopped.

Both reappeared and regained focus without issue. They engaged in long, drawn-out battles from the baseline full of feather-light lobs and cutting backhands that had both players sprinting back and forth and side to side on seemingly every point.

Gauff took the edge in the eighth game when Muchova had a double fault serving at 40-30 and Gauff won the next two points. She earned her first match point two games later, serving at 40-30 with a 5-4 lead.

More than 30 minutes and the 40-shot rally passed between that and her sixth match point when she finally won.

"At that point, when you're like 20 shots in the rally, it's tough to go for a winner sometimes because, you know, you're not as fresh on energy and everything as before and, you know, I knew that I could outlast that rally," Gauff said. "I knew I had the legs and the lungs to outlast her in the rally; it was whether I had the mentality and patience to do it."

WEEKEND TV AND RADIO

Tomorrow

MLB

4 p.m.	**Los Angeles Dodgers at Washington** » MASN2, WJFK (106.7 FM)
4 p.m.	**Baltimore at Boston** » MASN, WIYY (97.9 FM), WSBN (630 AM)
4 p.m.	**Seattle at Tampa Bay** » Fox Sports 1
7 p.m.	**San Diego at Houston** » MLB Network
10 p.m.	**Cleveland at Los Angeles Angels** » MLB Network (joined in progress)

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

11 a.m.	**Vanderbilt at Wake Forest** » ACC Network
Noon	**Notre Dame at North Carolina State** » WJLA (Ch. 7), WMAR (Ch. 2)
Noon	**Nebraska at Colorado** » WTTG (Ch. 5), WBFF (Ch. 45)
Noon	**Utah at Baylor** » ESPN
Noon	**Purdue at Virginia Tech** » ESPN2, WJFK (106.7 FM)
Noon	**Troy at Kansas State** » Fox Sports 1
Noon	**James Madison at Virginia** » ESPNU, WSBN (630 AM)
Noon	**Ball State at Georgia** » SEC Network
Noon	**Youngstown State at Ohio State** » Big Ten Network
Noon	**Delaware State at Army** » CBS Sports Network
2:15 p.m.	**Charleston Southern at Clemson** » ACC Network
3:30 p.m.	**Texas A&M at Miami** » WJLA (Ch. 7), WMAR (Ch. 2)
3:30 p.m.	**UNLV at Michigan** » WUSA (Ch. 9), WJZ (Ch. 13)
3:30 p.m.	**Iowa at Iowa State** » WTTG (Ch. 5), WBFF (Ch. 45)
3:30 p.m.	**Mississippi at Tulane** » ESPN2
3:30 p.m.	**Richmond at Michigan State** » Big Ten Network
3:30 p.m.	**Wagner at Navy** » CBS Sports Network, WFED (1500 AM)
4 p.m.	**Marshall at East Carolina** » ESPNU
4 p.m.	**Kent State at Arkansas** » SEC Network
5 p.m.	**Tulsa at Washington** » Pac-12 Network
5:15 p.m.	**Appalachian State at North Carolina** » ACC Network
6 p.m.	**Monmouth at Towson** » NBC Sports Washington
6:30 p.m.	**Cincinnati at Pittsburgh** » WDCW (Ch. 50), WNUV (Ch. 54)
7 p.m.	**Oregon at Texas Tech** » WTTG (Ch. 5), WBFF (Ch. 45)
7 p.m.	**Texas at Alabama** » ESPN
7 p.m.	**Central Florida at Boise State** » Fox Sports 1
7 p.m.	**Houston at Rice** » NFL Network
7:30 p.m.	**Wisconsin at Washington State** » WJLA (Ch. 7), WMAR (Ch. 2)
7:30 p.m.	**UCLA at San Diego State** » WUSA (Ch. 9), WJZ (Ch. 13)
7:30 p.m.	**Charlotte at Maryland** » WRC (Ch. 4), WBAL (Ch. 11), WTEM (980 AM)
7:30 p.m.	**McNeese State at Florida** » ESPNU
7:30 p.m.	**Arizona at Mississippi State** » SEC Network
7:30 p.m.	**Temple at Rutgers** » Big Ten Network
8 p.m.	**Air Force at Sam Houston State** » CBS Sports Network
8:30 p.m.	**Southern Mississippi at Florida State** » ACC Network
9 p.m.	**UC Davis at Oregon State** » Pac-12 Network
10:30 p.m.	**Stanford at Southern California** » WTTG (Ch. 5), WBFF (Ch. 45)
10:30 p.m.	**Auburn at California** » ESPN
10:30 p.m.	**Oklahoma State at Arizona State** » Fox Sports 1

AUTO RACING

10 a.m.	**NASCAR Xfinity Series: Kansas Lottery 300, practice and qualifying** » USA Network
Noon	**NASCAR Cup Series: Hollywood Casino 400, practice and qualifying** » USA Network
3 p.m.	**Pro Motocross Championship, Round 29** » USA Network
3:30 p.m.	**NASCAR Xfinity Series: Kansas Lottery 300** » WRC (Ch. 4), WBAL (Ch. 11)

GOLF

7:30 a.m.	**DP World Tour: Irish Open, third round** » Golf Channel
2 p.m.	**LPGA Tour: Queen City Championship, third round** » Golf Channel
5 p.m.	**PGA Tour Champions: Ascension Charity Classic, second round** » Golf Channel
11 p.m.	**Asian Tour: Shinhan Donghae Open, final round** » Golf Channel

SOCCER

9 a.m.	**UEFA Euro qualifying, Group F: Belgium at Azerbaijan** » Fox Sports 1
Noon	**UEFA Euro qualifying, Group C: Ukraine vs. England** » Fox Sports 2
12:30 p.m.	**NWSL Challenge Cup, final: North Carolina vs. Racing Louisville** » WUSA (Ch. 9), WJZ (Ch. 13)
2:30 p.m.	**Friendly: Germany vs. Japan** » Fox Sports 2
5:30 p.m.	**Friendly: Uzbekistan at United States** » TNT
7:30 p.m.	**MLS: San Jose at D.C. United** » Apple TV Plus, WONK (104.7 FM)

TENNIS

4 p.m.	**U.S. Open, women's final** » ESPN

AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

5 a.m.	**Men's AFL: Brisbane at Port Adelaide** » Fox Sports 2
11 p.m.	**Women's AFL: Collingwood at Fremantle** » Fox Sports 2

Sunday

NFL

1 p.m.	**Arizona at Washington** » WTTG (Ch. 5), WBFF (Ch. 45), BIG (100.3 FM)
1 p.m.	**Houston at Baltimore** » WUSA (Ch. 9), WJZ (Ch. 13), WBAL (1090 AM), WBAL (101.5 FM), WIYY (97.9 FM)
4:25 p.m.	**Philadelphia at New England** » WUSA (Ch. 9), WJZ (Ch. 13)
4:25 p.m.	**Green Bay at Chicago** » WTTG (Ch. 5), WBFF (Ch. 45)
8:20 p.m.	**Dallas at New York Giants** » WRC (Ch. 4), WBAL (Ch. 11), WJFK (106.7 FM)

MLB

1:30 p.m.	**Los Angeles Dodgers at Washington** » MASN2, WJFK (106.7 FM)
1:30 p.m.	**Baltimore at Boston** » MASN, WIYY (97.9 FM), WSBN (630 AM)
2 p.m.	**San Diego at Houston** » MLB Network
5 p.m.	**Cleveland at Los Angeles Angels** » MLB Network (joined in progress)
8 p.m.	**Colorado at San Francisco** » ESPN

WNBA

1 p.m.	**Chicago at Connecticut** » CBS Sports Network
1 p.m.	**Washington at New York** » NBC Sports Washington, NBA TV
3 p.m.	**Phoenix at Las Vegas** » ESPN2

AUTO RACING

1 p.m.	**FIM Moto GP: San Marino Grand Prix** » WRC (Ch. 4), WBAL (Ch. 11)
3 p.m.	**IndyCar Series: Grand Prix of Monterey** » WRC (Ch. 4), WBAL (Ch. 11)
3 p.m.	**NASCAR Cup Series, playoffs: Hollywood Casino 400** » USA Network

GOLF

7:30 a.m.	**DP World Tour: Irish Open, final round** » Golf Channel
2 p.m.	**LPGA Tour: Queen City Championship, final round** » Golf Channel
5 p.m.	**PGA Tour Champions: Ascension Charity Classic, final round** » Golf Channel

SOCCER

9 a.m.	**UEFA Euro qualifying, Group H: Northern Ireland at Kazakhstan** » Fox Sports 2
Noon	**UEFA Euro qualifying, Group H: Finland vs. Denmark** » Fox Sports 2
2:30 p.m.	**UEFA Euro qualifying, Group E: Poland at Albania** » Fox Sports 1

TENNIS

1 p.m.	**U.S. Open, women's doubles final** » ESPN
4 p.m.	**U.S. Open, men's final** » ESPN

PROFESSIONAL LACROSSE

3 p.m.	**Premier Lacrosse League, semifinal: Redwoods vs. Archers** » WJLA (Ch. 7), WMAR (Ch. 2)

MEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER

6 p.m.	**Cal State Fullerton at Washington** » Pac-12 Network

WOMEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER

2 p.m.	**Colgate at Colorado** » Pac-12 Network
4 p.m.	**Kansas at Washington State** » Pac-12 Network
7 p.m.	**North Carolina at Alabama** » ESPNU

WOMEN'S COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL

1 p.m.	**Penn State at Louisville** » ESPN2

Pulisic returns to U.S. in fine form

National team star looks to carry blistering start with AC Milan into a pair of friendlies

BY STEVEN GOFF

DANIELE MASCOLO/REUTERS

Christian Pulisic has found plenty to smile about during his first season playing in Italy's Serie A.

ST. LOUIS — Before making his splashy debut for AC Milan, before scoring in consecutive matches to help I Rossoneri (the Red and Blacks) begin the Serie A soccer campaign in perfect form, Christian Pulisic needed to navigate Italy's late-summer siesta known as Ferragosto.

August, he quickly learned, is not the time to try getting things done in Italy, where shops close and beach crowds swell.

"I'm moving into an apartment, and everyone tells me: 'Oh, no one works during this time. Everyone's on holiday,' " he said, laughing. "I've got to get things done. I don't have WiFi at the house. I don't have this and that. They're like, 'Give it two weeks.' To me, I don't have two weeks."

After what Pulisic called "a lot of convincing," things on the personal front fell into place. He settled into his home. He's loving the food, culture and abundant sunshine. He understands some Italian, though "learning to speak, it'll take some time," he said.

The adaptation comes as Pulisic's professional life undertakes a blissful renewal. Rebounding from a quiet end to his four-year tenure with Chelsea in the English Premier League, the U.S. men's national team star is a full-time starter and instant fan favorite at AC Milan, one of European soccer's most famous clubs.

Pulisic scored 21 minutes into the league opener at Bologna on Aug. 21 and scored a first-half goal against Torino in his San Siro stadium debut five days later. Last Friday, only a spectacular save by Roma's Rui Patricio prevented him from notching another early goal. Combined with his preseason production, Pulisic was named AC Milan's MVP for August.

"It's been just getting this fresh start," the 24-year-old said in an interview with The Washington Post on Thursday. "I'm excited to go out and play, and I've had an opportunity to get a lot of minutes and do what I can do. I'm happy it shows on the field."

It's a far cry from last season in England, where he started eight of 38 league matches, entered as a sub 16 times and scored once for a 12th-place team, Chelsea's worst finish in 29 years.

Pulisic needed a new employer — badly. In July, AC Milan paid a $24 million transfer fee, a third of the U.S.-record fee Chelsea shelled out to Borussia Dortmund in 2019 for Pulisic.

"It was the right time for me to get out of my old club," he said. "I had great experiences at Chelsea. I don't have anything bad to say about it. I am just really happy with where I'm at now. I'm definitely enjoying it a lot more."

Sometimes a change of scenery and feeling wanted do wonders.

"There is always a point in time in players' careers where things aren't going the way you want it to go or how you picture it will go," said U.S. midfielder Weston McKennie, who plays for Juventus, another Serie A titan. "He just seems to be having more fun [at U.S. camp this week]. He is more fluid. He seems more confident in the decisions he is making. . . . He is pulling off moves I haven't seen in a long time."

Pulisic reported to the U.S. team this week for the first time since his move to Milan. The Americans will play friendlies against Uzbekistan on Saturday in St. Louis and Oman on Tuesday in St. Paul, Minn. He is then expected to return next month for elevated tests against Germany in East Hartford, Conn., and Ghana in Nashville.

Pulisic's resurgence comes as the U.S. squad is building toward the 2026 World Cup, which will take place in the United States, Mexico and Canada. Each received an automatic berth in the tournament, which will feature a record 48 teams.

Already one of the most accomplished players in program history — and a goal scorer against Iran at the 2022 World Cup in Qatar — Pulisic will be just 27 when the 2026 tournament comes around.

He, McKennie and the injured Tyler Adams are among several key figures from a young 2022 squad that advanced to the round of 16 against the Netherlands and is angling for a deeper run in 2026.

"We've made so much progress in recent years, going to that World Cup, being dominant within Concacaf, winning a lot of these [regional] tournaments," Pulisic said. "It's been fun, and now the next step is competing and trying to be one of the top teams in the world."

To get there, Gregg Berhalter, who has begun his second term as U.S. coach, will need to get the most out of his experienced and talented charges. Pulisic's sustained success at AC Milan would buoy the greater cause.

"You can see his confidence is very high," Berhalter said last week. "He feels valued in his environment. And those are two key components to performing well."

And, Berhalter added, Pulisic "happens to be going from a big club to a big club." Often, players who fall out of favor at big clubs must move to smaller clubs or lesser leagues to play regularly.

Milan is not only a big club competing in one of Europe's top domestic leagues but also qualified for the UEFA Champions League, the continent's ultimate testing grounds. (Chelsea did not qualify.) Group play for Milan will begin Sept. 19 in a quartet with Paris Saint-Germain, Newcastle United and Borussia Dortmund.

The hope and belief in U.S. circles is that Pulisic's rejuvenated club career will parlay into a more influential presence with the national team.

"A lot of times, coming into camp before, maybe it was when I wasn't getting a lot of minutes" for Chelsea, Pulisic said. Playing regularly "just gives you that added benefit of being fit, playing games, feeling confident. It allows you to come in and pick up where you left off at your club."

Moving to Milan, he added, is "definitely a positive thing for me."

CANDACE BUCKNER

A giant in her sport, Hermoso is reduced to a victim

BUCKNER FROM D1

CATHERINE IVILL/GETTY IMAGES

Jenni Hermoso, right, helped Spain win its first World Cup last month, a crowning achievement for one of the world's top players.

eventually, but only if cloaked in unfair irony.

Among the most disheartening twists to the ongoing saga that has toppled the Spanish soccer's power structure — and eclipsed every other storyline of the World Cup — is that Hermoso must take on a new identity. One that never should have belonged to her: "Victim."

In the weeks since the championship match and the celebration that soiled Spain's defining moment, the fallout has offered a glimpse into why it's so hard for some alleged victims to seek justice. Hermoso has been called a "liar" and has been lied about by her own federation, the bullying boys' club that went with the tired play of blaming the woman to defend their guy. As the days go by, evidence of her career achievements in soccer can be scarcely found on search engines. For instance, try Googling broad terms such as *Jennifer Hermoso soccer,* or something a bit more specific such as *how many minutes did Jenni Hermoso play in the World Cup*. Hermoso's accolades are buried beneath an avalanche of stories documenting the fallout from the unwanted kiss. And, of course, *his* mug. A face synonymous with morally corrupt men in charge who wield their power like weapons. And because Rubiales couldn't merely celebrate the players and saddle his privilege for two seconds, her face has become synonymous with victimhood.

"I felt vulnerable and a victim of an impulse-driven, sexist, out of place act, without any consent on my part," Hermoso said in a statement. "Simply put, I was not respected."

If victims ever feel hesitation in reporting crimes of verbal, physical and sexual abuse, it might be because they don't want to acknowledge what Hermoso had to publicly admit.

When the U.S. Soccer Federation released the investigative findings into mistreatment in the domestic women's professional league, Sally Q. Yates wrote: "The verbal and emotional abuse players describe in the NWSL is not merely 'tough' coaching. And the players affected are not shrinking violets. They are among the best athletes in the world." Many of those players endured seasons worth of misconduct from their coaches before reporting them to the league — and sometimes it took years for the league to stop ignoring their claims. Hermoso had the benefit of video evidence and a public rallying to her side (*Contigo Jenni!* they have screamed in the streets of Madrid and worn on their wrists in the NWSL), and yet she still needed several days to pass before making her first public comments.

The Spanish soccer star, the all-time goal scorer and a world-class campeona, or champion. This is who admitted to feeling "vulnerable" and disrespected. Imagine how complicated that must be for a professional athlete who has made a career of commanding the stage or powering through obstacles.

In a sport that exalts toughness, Hermoso plays the part. No woman in the history of Spain's national team has scored more goals. During the World Cup held in Australia and New Zealand, although she's 33 years old, Hermoso still applied more ball pressure and covered more ground than any of her teammates. Past her prime? Nope. Hermoso's too spicy for that.

"The age thing is just a f---ing number that people want to put on everything," she said after her team defeated Sweden in the semifinal round.

But before she was running all over the place — and putting any critics in their place — she was speaking up. Last September, Hermoso was one of three players to hold a news conference to explain the "general unease" felt by the national team. This happened before the majority of the team sent an email to the Royal Spanish Football Federation to say they would not suit up if Jorge Vilda remained as coach. The federation (RFEF) stood by their boy, retaliated with silly threats and tried to strong-arm apologies from the players. Despite the RFEF stooping to new levels of petty, Hermoso, like her teammates, represented her homeland anyway.

In a world that expects women to grit it out and persist, Hermoso performs that role just as well.

She has covered her left arm in a sleeve of tattoos and lets profanities fly freely from her lips. In Australia, my only up-close moment with the leader of La Roja was when she bounced through the media zone following the semifinals — and not giving a single care about the reporter's microphones nor the broken hearts of the Swedish players who had just lost — she yelled triumphantly in Spanish: "We're in the f---ing finals!"

With that little peek into her personality, Hermoso appeared carefree, equally a jubilant victor and a cheeky agitator. She would make no apologies for her presence. There she was. All of her. And tough if you didn't like it. In Spain, you might say *que ella no se amilana*. She's not intimidated. Around here, we would just look at her and go *that girl's baaaad!*

But now, we feel sorry for her; a sentiment that conflicts with her natural character. The unwanted kiss thrust Hermoso into a spotlight not of her choosing and turned her into the woman who had something done *to* her. Judging by her statements and her decision to request an investigation, however, it seems Hermoso is determined to flip that identity.

After her fight, maybe she won't just be the plaintiff but the willing advocate who stood up against sexism. It's up to the world to recognize this difference. Considering Hermoso's background as a fearless goal scorer, emboldened speaker and all-around jefe, she may not give us a choice.

Beatriz Rios contributed to this report.

SOCCER ROUNDUP

Messi wins World Cup qualifier on free kick

ARGENTINA 1, ECUADOR 0

FROM NEWS SERVICES

Lionel Messi's second-half goal gave Argentina a 1-0 home win over Ecuador on Thursday in Buenos Aires to get its 2026 World Cup qualifying campaign off on the right foot.

Argentina, the defending World Cup champion, was dominant in possession in the CONMENBOL qualifier but frustrated in attack as it struggled to make the breakthrough.

Messi, however, continued the fine form he is showing with Inter Miami in MLS by scoring on a free kick in the 77th minute. . . .

Also, host Colombia beat Venezuela, 1-0, in Barranquilla, and host Paraguay and Peru played a scoreless draw in Ciudad del Este. . . .

Brazil striker Neymar said he is not fully fit to play in the two opening rounds of World Cup qualifying because of the right ankle injury that has sidelined him since February.

Brazil plays Bolivia on Friday.

• **EUROPE:** Denzel Dumfries had three first-half assists as the Netherlands beat visiting Greece, 3-0, in Eindhoven to leapfrog the Greeks and move into second in European Championship qualifying Group B behind leader France.

Meanwhile, France maintained its perfect record by beating Ireland, 2-0, in Paris. . . .

A late goal from forward Oliver Antman gave Finland a 1-0 win over host Kazakhstan in Astana and put the Finns atop Group H.

Second-place Denmark defeated San Marino, 4-0, in Copenhagen as playmaker Christian Eriksen recorded three assists. . . .

Third-place Slovenia beat visiting Northern Ireland, 4-2, in Ljubljana behind a pair of goals from Andraz Sporar. . . .

Visiting Albania snatched a 1-1 draw against Group E leader the Czech Republic. Albania is in second place in the group. . . .

In the other group match, Robert Lewandowski scored twice as Poland beat the Faroe Islands, 2-0, in Warsaw to move within a point of Albania. . . .

In Group G, first-place Hungary won on the road at second-place Serbia, 2-1, in Belgrade, and host Lithuania, in fourth place, drew with third-place Montenegro, 2-2, in Kaunas.

Spain's Liga F facing strike

The players for Spain's women's league maintain they will go on strike rather than start the new season after salary negotiations with the league broke down Thursday.

The AFE players union, one of five unions representing the players, said no deal had been reached because "we consider the economic proposal of the Liga F unacceptable."

The season was set to kick off Friday.

The strike comes with Spain reeling from the consequences of the kiss by the president of its national soccer federation, Luis Rubiales, of national team player Jenni Hermoso without her consent after the World Cup final. Since then, the players for Spain's women's national team and several dozens more have said they won't play for their country until the federation changes leadership.

Hermoso has accused Rubiales of sexual assault.

The minimum salary for the women's league, called Liga F, is just 16,000 euros ($17,400), compared with the 182,000 euros ($197,000) guaranteed for men in La Liga.

The unions want to increase that minimum salary to 23,000 euros, with the option of it reaching 25,000 euros if the league makes more than 8 million euros in revenue.

The league said its best offer of 20,000 euros, with the chance for that to reach 23,000 if revenue surpasses 8 million euros, was rejected by the players.

The strike will impact the first two rounds of play. The league opener was scheduled for Friday between Sevilla and Tenerife.

Meanwhile, Hermoso returned to Mexico on Thursday to resume playing with her club team, Pachuca, which pledged to help her find "normality."

Pachuca has a match Sunday against Puma. It is uncertain whether Hermoso will play.

SCOREBOARD

PRO FOOTBALL

NFL

NFC

EAST	W	L	T	PCT.	PF	PA
Dallas	0	0	0	.000	0	0
N.Y. Giants	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Philadelphia	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Washington	0	0	0	.000	0	0

SOUTH	W	L	T	PCT.	PF	PA
Atlanta	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Carolina	0	0	0	.000	0	0
New Orleans	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Tampa Bay	0	0	0	.000	0	0

NORTH	W	L	T	PCT.	PF	PA
Detroit	1	0	0	1.000	21	20
Chicago	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Green Bay	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Minnesota	0	0	0	.000	0	0

WEST	W	L	T	PCT.	PF	PA
Arizona	0	0	0	.000	0	0
L.A. Rams	0	0	0	.000	0	0
San Francisco	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Seattle	0	0	0	.000	0	0

AFC

EAST	W	L	T	PCT.	PF	PA
Buffalo	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Miami	0	0	0	.000	0	0
New England	0	0	0	.000	0	0
N.Y. Jets	0	0	0	.000	0	0

SOUTH	W	L	T	PCT.	PF	PA
Houston	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Indianapolis	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Jacksonville	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Tennessee	0	0	0	.000	0	0

NORTH	W	L	T	PCT.	PF	PA
Baltimore	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Cincinnati	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Cleveland	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Pittsburgh	0	0	0	.000	0	0

WEST	W	L	T	PCT.	PF	PA
Denver	0	0	0	.000	0	0
L.A. Chargers	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Las Vegas	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Kansas City	0	1	0	.000	20	21

WEEK 1
THURSDAY'S RESULT
Detroit 21, at Kansas City 20

SUNDAY'S GAMES
Arizona at Washington (-7), 1 (Fox)
Houston at Baltimore (-10), 1 (CBS)
Carolina at Atlanta (-3½), 1 (Fox)
Cincinnati (-2½) at Cleveland, 1 (CBS)
Jacksonville (-4½) at Indianapolis, 1 (Fox)
Tampa Bay at Minnesota (-5½), 1 (CBS)
Tennessee at New Orleans (-3), 1 (CBS)
San Francisco (-2½) at Pittsburgh, 1 (Fox)
Green Bay at Chicago (-1½), 4:25 (Fox)
Las Vegas at Denver (-4), 4:25 (CBS)
Miami at L.A. Chargers (-3), 4:25 (CBS)
Philadelphia (-4) at New England, 4:25 (CBS)
L.A. Rams at Seattle (-5½), 4:25 (Fox)
Dallas (-3½) at N.Y. Giants, 8:20 (NBC)

MONDAY'S GAME
Buffalo (-2½) at N.Y. Jets, 8:15 (ESPN/ABC)

Lions 21, Chiefs 20

DETROIT	7	0	7	7	—21
KANSAS CITY	0	14	3	3	—20

FIRST QUARTER
Detroit: St. Brown 9 pass from Goff (Patterson kick), 2:46.

SECOND QUARTER
Kansas City: Rice 1 pass from Mahomes (Butker kick), 11:50.
Kansas City: Bell 4 pass from Mahomes (Butker kick), :34.

THIRD QUARTER
Detroit: Branch 50 interception return (Patterson kick), 10:54.
Kansas City: FG Butker 35, 2:10.

FOURTH QUARTER
Kansas City: FG Butker 39, 12:11.
Detroit: Montgomery 8 run (Patterson kick), 7:06.
Attendance: 73,522.

	DET	KC
First Downs	19	17
Total Net Yards	368	316
Rushes-Yards	34-118	23-90
Passing	250	226
Punt Returns	1-16	3-16
Kickoff Returns	0-0	0-0
Interceptions Ret.	1-50	0-0
Comp-Att-Int	22-35-0	21-39-1
Sacked-Yards Lost	1-3	0-0
Punts	5-44.4	5-49.4
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	0-0
Penalties-Yards	4-63	3-25
Time Of Possession	32:38	27:22

PASSING
Detroit: Goff 22-35-0-253.
Kansas City: Mahomes 21-39-1-226.

RUSHING
Detroit: Montgomery 21-74, Gibbs 7-42, Reeves-Maybin 1-3, Goff 5-(minus 1).
Kansas City: Mahomes 6-45, Pacheco 8-23, Edwards-Helaire 6-22, Moore 1-4, Toney 1-(minus 1), Rice 1-(minus 3).

RECEIVING
Detroit: St. Brown 6-71, LaPorta 5-39, J.Reynolds 4-80, Gibbs 2-18, Wright 2-17, M.Jones 2-8, Raymond 1-20.
Kansas City: Pacheco 4-31, Gray 3-31, Rice 3-29, Valdes-Scantling 2-48, Ju.Watson 2-45, Bell 2-12, McKinnon 1-10, Edwards-Helaire 1-7, James 1-6, Ross 1-6, Toney 1-1.

MISSED FIELD GOALS
None.

AUTO RACING

NASCAR Cup Series

SCHEDULE-WINNERS
Feb. 5: x-Heat Race 1 (Aric Almirola)
Feb. 5: x-Heat Race 2 (Martin Truex Jr.)
Feb. 5: x-Heat Race 3, (Denny Hamlin)
Feb. 5: x-Heat Race 4, (William Byron)
Feb. 5: x-Last Chance Qualifying Race 1 (Michael McDowell)
Feb. 5: x-Last Chance Qualifying Race 2 (Chase Elliott)
Feb. 5: x- Clash at the Coliseum (Martin Truex Jr.)
Feb. 16: x-Duel at Daytona 1 (Joey Logano)
Feb. 16: x-Duel at Daytona 2 (Aric Almirola)
Feb. 19: Daytona 500 (Ricky Stenhouse Jr.)
Feb. 26: Pala Casino 400 (Kyle Busch)
March 5: Pennzoil 400 (William Byron)
March 12: Work United 500 (William Byron)
March 19: Ambetter 400 (Joey Logano)
March 26: EchoPark Automotive Grand Prix (Tyler Reddick)
April 2: Toyota Owners 400 (Kyle Larson)
April 8: x-Qualifying Race 1 (Austin Dillon)
April 8: x-Qualifying Race 2 (Ryan Blaney)
April 8: x-Qualifying Race 3 (Kyle Larson)
April 8: x-Qualifying Race 4 (Bubba Wallace)
April 9: Food City Dirt Race (Christopher Bell)
April 16: NOCO 400 (Kyle Larson)
April 23: Geico 500 (Kyle Busch)
April 30: Würth 400 (Martin Truex Jr.)
May 7: AdventHealth 400 (Denny Hamlin)
May 14: Goodyear 400 (William Byron)
May 20: x-Heat Race 1 (Daniel Suárez)
May 20: x-Heat Race 2 (Chris Buescher)
May 21: x-NASCAR All-Star Open (Josh Berry)
May 21: NASCAR All-Star Race (Kyle Larson)
May 28: Coca-Cola 600 (Ryan Blaney)
June 4: Enjoy Illinois 300 (Kyle Busch)
June 11: Toyota/Save Mart 350 (Martin Truex Jr.)
June 25: Ally 400 (Ross Chastain)
July 2: Grant Park 220 (Shane van Gisbergen)
July 9: Quaker State 400 (William Byron)
July 16: Crayon 301 (Martin Truex Jr.)
July 23: HighPoint.com 400 (Denny Hamlin)
July 30: Cook Out 400 (Chris Buescher)
Aug. 7: FireKeepers Casino 400 (Chris Buescher)
Aug. 13: Verizon 200 at the Brickyard (Michael McDowell)
Aug. 20: Go Bowling at The Glen (William Byron)
Aug. 26: Coke Zero Sugar 400 (Chris Buescher)
Sept. 3: Southern 500 (Kyle Larson)
Sept. 10: Hollywood Casino 400, Kansas City, Kan.
Sept. 16: Bass Pro Shops Night Race, Bristol, Tenn.
Sept. 24: AutoTrader EchoPark Automotive 400, Fort Worth
Oct. 1: YellaWood 500, Talladega, Ala.
Oct. 8: Roval 400, Concord, N.C.
Oct. 15: South Point 400, Las Vegas
Oct. 22: NASCAR Cup Series Race, Homestead, Fla.
Oct. 29: Xfinity 500, Ridgeway, Va.
Nov. 5: NASCAR Cup Series Race Championship, Avondale, Ariz.

x-Non-points race

NASCAR Cup Series

POINTS LEADERS
Through Monday.
1. William Byron, 2075.
2. Kyle Larson, 2074.
3. Tyler Reddick, 2060.
4. Chris Buescher, 2057.
5. Denny Hamlin, 2057.
6. Martin Truex Jr, 2055.
7. Kyle Busch, 2050.
8. Brad Keselowski, 2048.
9. Ryan Blaney, 2046.
10. Ross Chastain, 2043.
11. Joey Logano, 2033.
12. Christopher Bell, 2031.
13. Bubba Wallace, 2030.
14. Kevin Harvick, 2029.
15. Ricky Stenhouse Jr, 2027.
16. Michael McDowell, 2012.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

NCAA

MONDAY'S RESULT
SOUTH
at Duke 28, Clemson 7

THURSDAY'S RESULT
SOUTH
at Louisville 56, Murray State 0

FRIDAY'S GAMES
EAST
Stony Brook (0-1) at Rhode Island (0-1), 7

MIDWEST
Indiana State (0-1) at Indiana (0-1), 7
Illinois (1-0) at Kansas (1-0), 7:30

SATURDAY'S GAMES
EAST
Delaware State (0-1) at Army (0-1), noon
Holy Cross (1-0) at Boston College (0-1), noon
Stonehill (0-1) at CCSU (1-0), noon
Delaware (1-0) at Penn State (1-0), noon
Sacred Heart (0-1) at Georgetown (1-0), 12:30
Miami (Ohio) (0-1) at Massachusetts (1-1), 3:30
Wagner (0-1) at Navy (0-1), 3:30
Western Michigan (1-0) at Syracuse (1-0), 3:30
Lehigh (0-1) at Merrimack (0-1), 4
Fordham (1-1) at Buffalo (0-1), 6
Duquesne (1-0) at West Virginia (0-1), 6
St. Francis (Pa.) (0-1) at Robert Morris (0-1), 6
Colgate (0-1) at Villanova (1-0), 6
LIU Brooklyn (0-1) at Bryant (0-1), 6
Monmouth (NJ) (0-1) at Towson (0-1), 6
VMI (1-0) at Bucknell (0-1), 6
Cincinnati (1-0) at Pittsburgh (1-0), 6:30
Morehouse (0-0) at Howard (0-1), 7
Charlotte (1-0) at Maryland (1-0), 7:30
Temple (1-0) at Rutgers (1-0), 7:30

SOUTH
Vanderbilt (2-0) at Wake Forest (1-0), 11 a.m.
Purdue (0-1) at Virginia Tech (1-0), noon
Notre Dame (2-0) at North Carolina State (1-0), noon
Ball State (0-1) at Georgia (1-0), noon
James Madison (1-0) at Virginia (0-1), noon
Virgnia Lynchburg (0-0) at Presbyterian (0-1), 1
South Carolina State (0-2) at Georgia Tech (0-1), 1
Charleston Southern (1-0) at Clemson (0-0), 2:15
Samford (1-0) at Western Carolina (0-1), 2:30
Eastern Kentucky (0-1) at Kentucky (1-0), 3
Campbell (0-1) at The Citadel (0-1), 3
Mississippi (1-0) at Tulane (1-0), 3:30
Texas A&M (1-0) at Miami (1-0), 3:30
Marshall (1-0) at East Carolina (0-1), 4
Savannah State (0-0) at Bethune-Cookman (0-1), 4
Austin Peay (0-1) at Tennessee (1-0), 5
Appalachian State (1-0) at North Carolina (1-0), 5:15
Wofford (0-1) at William & Mary (1-0), 6
UAB (1-0) at Georgia Southern (1-0), 6
Norfolk State (0-1) at Hampton (1-0), 6
Louisiana Lafayette (1-0) at Old Dominion (0-1), 6
Ohio (1-1) at FAU (1-0), 6
New Mexico State (1-1) at Liberty (1-0), 6
Elon (0-1) at Gardner Webb (0-1), 6
Lafayette (1-0) at Duke (0-0), 6
North Texas (0-1) at FIU (1-1), 6:30
Florida A&M (1-0) at South Florida (0-1), 7
Texas (1-0) at Alabama (1-0), 7
Houston Christian (1-0) at W. Kentucky (1-0), 7
Uconn (0-1) at Georgia State (1-0), 7
Northwestern State (0-1) at Louisiana Tech (1-1), 7
Jackson State (1-1) at Southern (0-1), 7
Webber International (0-0) at Stetson (1-0), 7
Lane (0-0) at Alabama A&M (0-1), 7
Jacksonville State (2-0) at Coastal Carolina (0-1), 7
McNeese State (0-1) at Florida (0-1), 7:30
Grambling State (0-1) at LSU (0-1), 7:30
Arizona (1-0) at Mississippi State (1-0), 7:30
Furman (1-0) at South Carolina (0-1), 7:30
Southern Mississippi (1-0) at Florida State (1-0), 8:30

MIDWEST
Troy (1-0) at Kansas State (1-0), noon
Youngstown State (1-0) at Ohio State (1-0), noon
Central State (Ohio) (1-0) at Dayton (0-1), 1
Taylor (0-0) at Butler (0-1), 1
New Hampshire (1-0) at Central Michigan (0-1), 1:30
Eastern Illinois (1-0) at Bowling Green (0-1), 2
Maine (0-1) at North Dakota State (1-0), 3:30
UTEP (1-1) at Northwestern (0-1), 3:30
UNLV (1-0) at Michigan (1-0), 3:30
Richmond (0-1) at Michigan State (1-0), 3:30
Southern Illinois (1-0) at Northern Illinois (1-0), 3:30
Texas Southern (0-1) at Toledo (0-1), 3:30
Iowa (1-0) at Iowa State (1-0), 3:30
Northern Arizona (0-1) at North Dakota (1-0), 4
Weber State (1-0) at Northern Iowa (0-1), 5
Morgan State (1-0) at Akron (0-1), 6
Valparaiso (0-1) at Indiana Wesleyan (0-0), 6
Lindenwood (Mo.) (1-0) at Southeast Missouri State (0-1), 7
Middle Tennessee (0-1) at Missouri (1-0), 7
Northwestern (IA) (0-0) at Drake (0-1), 7
Montana State (1-0) at South Dakota State (1-0), 7
Eastern Michigan (1-0) at Minnesota (1-0), 7:30

SOUTHWEST
Utah (1-0) at Baylor (0-1), noon
Texas State (1-0) at UTSA (0-1), 3:30
Kent State (0-1) at Arkansas (1-0), 4
SMU (1-0) at Oklahoma (1-0), 6
Alcorn State (0-1) at Stephen F. Austin (0-1), 7
Memphis (1-0) at Arkansas State (0-1), 7
Oregon (1-0) at Texas Tech (0-1), 7
Houston (1-0) at Rice (0-1), 7
Texas College (0-0) at Cent. Arkansas (0-1), 7
North Alabama (1-1) at Tarleton State (1-0), 7
Abilene Christian (1-0) at Prairie View (1-0), 7
Nicholls (0-1) at TCU (0-1), 8
Sam Houston State (0-1) vs. Air Force (1-0) in Houston, 8

WEST
Nebraska (0-1) at Colorado (1-0), noon
Southern Utah (0-1) at BYU (1-0), 3
Incarnate Word (0-1) at Northern Colorado (0-1), 4
Portland State (0-1) at Wyoming (1-0), 4
Colorado Mesa (0-0) at San Diego (0-1), 4
Cal Poly (1-0) at San Jose State (0-2), 4
Tulsa (1-0) at Washington (1-0), 5
UCF (1-0) at Boise State (0-1), 7
Idaho (1-0) at Nevada (0-1), 7
UCLA (1-0) at San Diego State (2-0), 7:30
Wisconsin (1-0) at Washington State (1-0), 7:30
Idaho State (0-1) at Utah State (0-1), 8
Tennessee Tech (0-1) at New Mexico (0-1), 8
Montana (1-0) at Utah Tech (0-1), 9
Eastern Washington (0-1) at Fresno State (1-0), 9
UC Davis (1-0) at Oregon State (1-0), 9
Texas A&M Commerce (0-1) at Sacramento State (1-0), 10
Auburn (1-0) at California (1-0), 10:30
Oklahoma State (1-0) at Arizona State (1-0), 10:30
Stanford (1-0) at Southern Cal (2-0), 10:30

SUNDAY'S GAME
WEST
Albany (N.Y.) (1-1) at Hawaii (0-2), 12 a.m.

Louisville 56, Murray State 0

MURRAY STATE	0	0	0	0	— 0
LOUISVILLE	7	21	14	14	— 56

FIRST QUARTER
LOU: Thrash 12 run (B.Travelstead kick), 10:06.

SECOND QUARTER
LOU: Guerendo 1 run (B.Travelstead kick), 14:38.
LOU: Thrash 73 pass from Plummer (B.Travelstead kick), 6:37.
LOU: Jordan 72 run (B.Travelstead kick), 2:37.

THIRD QUARTER
LOU: Jordan 1 run (B.Travelstead kick), 7:08.
LOU: Huggins-Bruce 6 run (Lopez kick), :58.

FOURTH QUARTER
LOU: Key.Brown 4 run (B.Travelstead kick), 14:55.
LOU: Gatewood 34 pass from H.Bailey (Lopez kick), 9:44.

	Murray State	Louisville
First Downs	8	29
Total Net Yards	166	690
Rushes-Yards	32-94	44-344
Passing	72	346
Punt Returns	0-0	6-6
Kickoff Returns	1-12	0-0
Interceptions Ret.	2-55	1-0
Comp-Att-Int	8-22-1	25-34-2
Sacked-Yards Lost	1-5	1-8
Punts	10-43.7	2-52.5
Fumbles-Lost	2-2	2-0
Penalties-Yards	7-65	7-44
Time Of Possession	28:53	31:07

PASSING
Murray State: D.Williams 7-16-0-68, Phoenix 1-5-1-4, Stinson 0-1-0-0. **Louisville:** Plummer 16-22-2-247, Bailey 3-5-0-51, Domann 4-4-0-34, Allen 1-1-0-7, Clarkson 1-2-0-7.

RUSHING
Murray State: Morgan 11-34, D.Williams 7-21, C.Jones 5-19, Phoenix 1-10, Jennings 2-7, I.Hill 1-2, Galbreath 4-2, Perry 1-(minus 1). **Louisville:** Jordan 7-135, Key.Brown 11-65, Guerendo 11-63, Moorman 5-38, Conley 1-19, Thrash 1-12, Huggins-Bruce 1-6, Plummer 4-5, Clarkson 1-3, Agyen 1-0, (Team) 1-(minus 2).

RECEIVING
Murray State: Bell 4-26, C.Jones 1-23, Eke 1-13, Rusk 1-6, Galbreath 1-4. **Louisville:** Guerendo 4-47, Calloway 4-37, Thrash 3-82, Houston 3-27, Jordan 2-43, Coleman 2-32, Huggins-Bruce 2-17, Gatewood 1-34, Hicks 1-11, Downing 1-7, Fowles 1-7, C.Bell 1-2.

TENNIS

U.S. Open

At USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center
In New York
Purse: $44,700,000
Surface: Hardcourt outdoor

WOMEN'S SINGLES — SEMIFINALS
Coco Gauff (6), United States, def. Karolina Muchova (10), Czech Republic, 6-4, 7-5.

MEN'S DOUBLES — SEMIFINALS
Rohan Bopanna, India, and Matthew Ebden (6), Australia, def. Nicolas Mahut and Pierre-Hugues Herbert, France, 7-6 (7-3), 6-2; Rajeev Ram, United States, and Joe Salisbury (3), Britain, def. Ivan Dodig, Croatia, and Austin Krajicek (2), United States, 7-5, 3-6, 6-3.

SOCCER

MLS

EAST	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Cincinnati	17	4	6	57	44	30
New England	13	5	8	47	45	31
Orlando City	13	6	8	47	41	31
Philadelphia	14	8	4	46	47	31
Columbus	13	8	6	45	54	37
Atlanta	11	8	9	42	51	43
Nashville	11	9	7	40	32	27
CF Montréal	11	14	2	35	28	40
D.C. United	9	12	6	33	37	38
Chicago	8	11	8	32	32	42
Charlotte FC	7	9	10	31	34	43
New York City FC	6	10	12	30	28	36
New York	7	12	8	29	24	33
Inter Miami CF	7	14	4	25	27	37
Toronto FC	4	13	10	22	23	39

WEST	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
St. Louis City SC	15	10	2	47	53	35
Seattle	11	9	8	41	34	29
Los Angeles FC	11	8	7	40	40	30
Real Salt Lake	11	9	7	40	38	39
Houston	11	10	6	39	36	31
Vancouver	10	8	8	38	43	36
Minnesota United	9	8	9	36	33	32
San Jose	9	9	9	36	32	36
FC Dallas	9	10	7	34	29	30
Austin FC	9	12	6	33	38	43
Sporting KC	8	11	8	32	36	37
Portland	7	11	9	30	32	44
LA Galaxy	7	10	8	29	31	39
Colorado	3	13	10	19	16	39

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 30
Cincinnati 2, at Atlanta 1
Orlando City 1, at Charlotte FC 1
at Nashville 0, Miami 0
at New England 1, New York 0
at New York City FC 2, CF Montréal 0
at Toronto FC 3, Philadelphia 1
Seattle 2, at Austin FC 1
Vancouver 1, at Chicago 0
at Houston 2, Columbus 0
at Minnesota 3, Colorado 0
at St. Louis City SC 2, FC Dallas 1
at Portland 2, Real Salt Lake 1
LA Galaxy 3, at San Jose 2

SATURDAY'S RESULTS
at D.C. United 4, Chicago 0
Vancouver 1, at New York City FC 1
Orlando City 1, at Cincinnati 0
Columbus 4, at CF Montréal 2
Austin FC 2, at New England 2
Atlanta 2, at FC Dallas 2
at Sporting KC 2, St. Louis City SC 1
Charlotte FC 1, at Nashville 1
at Real Salt Lake 2, Colorado 0
Houston 0, at LA Galaxy 0
Minnesota 1, at San Jose 1
Portland 2, at Seattle 2

SUNDAY'S RESULTS
at Philadelphia 4, New York 1
Miami 3, at Los Angeles FC 1

SATURDAY'S MATCHES
San Jose at D.C. United, 7:30
Sporting KC at Miami, 7:30
New England at Minnesota, 8:30
Los Angeles FC at Portland, 10:30

SUNDAY'S MATCH
St. Louis City SC at LA Galaxy, 8

SATURDAY, SEPT. 16
D.C. United at Charlotte FC, 7:30
New York at New York City FC, 3:30
Miami at Atlanta, 5
Chicago at CF Montréal, 7:30
Columbus at Orlando City, 7:30
Cincinnati at Philadelphia, 7:30
Vancouver at Toronto FC, 7:30
Seattle at FC Dallas, 8:30
St. Louis City SC at Houston, 8:30
Sporting KC at Minnesota, 8:30
New England at Colorado, 9:30
LA Galaxy at Los Angeles FC, 10:30
Real Salt Lake at San Jose, 10:30

SUNDAY, SEPT. 17
Portland at Austin FC, 8:30

MLS leaders

Entering Saturday's matches.

GOALS
Hany Mukhtar, NSH 14
Luciano Acosta, CIN 13
Giorgos Giakoumakis, ATL 13
Denis Bouanga, LFC 12
Julian Carranza, PHI 12
Cristian Espinoza, SJ 12
Alan Pulido, KC 12
7 players tied with 10

ASSISTS
Thiago Almada, ATL 14
Hector Herrera, HOU 13
Carles Gil, NE 12
Luciano Acosta, CIN 11
Daniel Gazdag, PHI 10
Juan Hernandez, CLB 10
Nico Lodeiro, SEA 10
Eduard Loewen, STL 10

SHOTS
Juan Hernandez, CLB 112
Denis Bouanga, LFC 106
Hany Mukhtar, NSH 98
Thiago Almada, ATL 96
Christian Benteke, DC 79
Riqui Puig, LA 71
Brian White, VAN 70
Luciano Acosta, CIN 69
Julian Carranza, PHI 69
Eduard Loewen, STL 67

SHOTS ON GOAL
Hany Mukhtar, NSH 40
Denis Bouanga, LFC 38
Juan Hernandez, CLB 38
Thiago Almada, ATL 35
Luciano Acosta, CIN 32
Brian White, VAN 31
Julian Carranza, PHI 29
Riqui Puig, LA 28
Daniel Salloi, KC 28

GOALS ALLOWED AVERAGE
Stefan Frei, SEA 0.96
Andre Blake, PHI 0.98
Joe Willis, NSH 1.04
Maarten Paes, DAL 1.04
Pedro Gallese, ORL 1.04
Dayne St. Clair, MIN 1.09
Roman Celentano, CIN 1.11
Sean Johnson, TOR 1.16
Steve Clark, HOU 1.19

SHUTOUTS
Steve Clark, HOU 11
Stefan Frei, SEA 11
Roman Celentano, CIN 10
Jonathan Sirois, MTL 10
Pedro Gallese, ORL 8
John McCarthy, LFC 8
Dayne St. Clair, MIN 8

SAVES
Roman Buerki, STL 100
Djordje Petrovic, NE 98
Drake Callender, MCF 96
Brad Stuver, ATX 96
Joe Willis, NSH 79

NWSL

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
San Diego	9	6	3	30	26	20
Portland	8	5	5	29	38	25
North Carolina	8	6	4	28	26	19
OL Reign	8	7	3	27	25	21
Gotham FC	7	5	6	27	21	19
Washington	6	4	8	26	24	25
Louisville	5	4	9	24	22	18
Angel City	6	6	6	24	22	25
Orlando	7	10	1	22	21	24
Houston	4	6	8	20	12	15
Chicago	6	10	2	20	22	39
Kansas City	6	11	1	19	19	28

FRIDAY, SEPT. 1
Angel City 1, at Kansas City 0

SATURDAY'S RESULTS
Gotham FC 3, at North Carolina 3
at Louisville 2, Portland 1

SUNDAY'S RESULTS
Chicago 2, at Washington 0
at OL Reign 1, Orlando 0
at San Diego 1, Houston 0

FRIDAY, SEPT. 15
Houston at Louisville, 7:30

SATURDAY, SEPT. 16
Washington at Gotham FC, 7:30
Kansas City at San Diego, 10
OL Reign at Portland, 10:30

SUNDAY, SEPT. 17
Angel City at Chicago, 6
North Carolina at Orlando, 7

THURSDAY, SEPT. 21
Orlando at Angel City, 10

SATURDAY, SEPT. 30
Kansas City at Washington, 7
Louisville at Chicago, 8
San Diego at Portland, 10:30

SUNDAY, OCT. 1
Houston at Gotham FC, 6:30
North Carolina at OL Reign, 8

PRO BASKETBALL

WNBA

EAST	W	L	Pct	GB
y-New York	32	7	.821	—
y-Connecticut	26	12	.684	5½
y-Atlanta	18	20	.474	13½
y-Washington	18	20	.474	13½
Chicago	16	22	.421	15½
Indiana	12	26	.316	19½

WEST	W	L	Pct	GB
y-Las Vegas	32	6	.842	—
y-Dallas	20	18	.526	12
y-Minnesota	19	19	.500	13
Los Angeles	16	23	.410	16½
Seattle	11	27	.289	21
Phoenix	9	29	.237	23

y-Clinched playoff spot

WEDNESDAY'S RESULT
at Atlanta 79, Seattle 68

THURSDAY'S RESULT
at New York 96, Los Angeles 89

FRIDAY'S GAMES
Atlanta at Washington, 7
Indiana at Connecticut, 7
Minnesota at Chicago, 8
Seattle at Dallas, 8
Las Vegas at Phoenix, 10

SATURDAY'S GAMES
No games scheduled.

SUNDAY'S GAMES
Washington at New York, 1
Chicago at Connecticut, 1
Dallas at Atlanta, 1
Minnesota at Indiana, 1
Los Angeles at Seattle, 3
Phoenix at Las Vegas, 3

END OF REGULAR SEASON

Liberty 96, Sparks 89

LOS ANGELES	23	27	24	15	— 89
NEW YORK	21	22	26	27	— 96

LOS ANGELES: Burrell 6-12 2-2 18, Hamby 4-8 2-2 11, Stevens 7-22 2-3 18, Canada 4-9 2-3 10, Clarendon 12-16 3-3 30, Cooke 1-4 0-0 2, Thomas 0-0 0-0 0. **Totals** 34-71 11-13 89.

NEW YORK: Laney 7-13 3-3 20, Stewart 9-16 4-4 25, Jones 2-4 0-0 4, Ionescu 5-15 2-3 16, Vandersloot 3-6 0-0 6, Thornton 2-6 0-0 6, Dolson 6-7 0-0 17, Johannès 1-2 0-0 2. **Totals** 35-69 9-10 96.

Three-point Goals: Los Angeles 10-23 (Burrell 4-6, Clarendon 3-4, Stevens 2-7, Hamby 1-2, Cooke 0-1, Canada 0-3), New York 17-34 (Dolson 5-5, Ionescu 4-10, Laney 3-5, Stewart 3-5, Thornton 2-4, Johannès 0-1, Jones 0-1, Vandersloot 0-3). **Fouled Out:** None. **Rebounds:** Los Angeles 25 (Hamby, Stevens 8), New York 31 (Jones 9). **Assists:** Los Angeles 16 (Canada 5), New York 32 (Vandersloot 10). **Total Fouls:** Los Angeles 12, New York 15. **A:** 6,275 (17,732)

HIGH SCHOOLS

FOOTBALL SCHEDULE
THURSDAY'S RESULTS
MARYLAND
Seneca Valley 20, at Blair 14
Lackey 54, at McDonough 0

FRIDAY'S GAMES
D.C.
Anacostia at H.D. Woodson, 6
Bell at Roosevelt, 6
Coolidge at Fort Hill, 5
Dunbar (Baltimore) at Dunbar, 6
Eastern at McKinley Tech, 6
Paul Public Charter at Jackson Reed, 6
Richard Wright at Phelps, 6
Ron Brown at KIPP Legacy, 4
Surrattsville at Ballou, 7

MARYLAND
Annapolis at Glen Burnie, 6
Bethesda Chevy Chase at Churchill, 6:30
Blake at Kennedy, 6:30
Broadneck at Arundel, 6
Chopticon at Calvert, 7
Clarksburg at Wheaton, 7
Conordia Prep at Old Mill, 6
Damascus at Northwest, 6:30
DuVal at Laurel, 7
Eleanor Roosevelt at Wise, 7
Hammond at Glenelg, 7
Fairmont Heights at Friendly, 6:30
Gaithersburg at Quince Orchard, 6:30
Great Mills at Leonardtown, 6
La Plata at North Point, 7
Long Reach at Atholton, 7
Mt. Hebron at Marriotts Ridge, 7
North County at Francis Scott Key, 6:30
Northeast at Crofton, 6
Northwestern at Bladensburg, 7
Oxon Hill at C.H. Flowers, 7
Paint Branch at Sherwood, 6:30
Parkdale at Bowie, 7
Patuxent at Huntingtown, 7
Poolesville at Walkersville, 7
Reservoir at Oakland Mills, 8
Richard Montgomery at Walter Johnson, 7
River Hill at Howard, 7
Severn School at Meade, 6
Severna Park at South River, 6
Southern at Digital Harbor, 6
Springbrook at Einstein, 6:30
Suitland at High Point, 7
Thomas Stone at Northern, 7
Watkins Mill at Magruder, 6:30
Westlake at St. Charles, 7
Whitman at Northwood, 6:30
Wilde Lake at Centennial, 7
Wootton at Rockville, 7

VIRGINIA
Annandale at Hayfield, 7
Battlefield at Gar-Field, 7
Brentsville at Millbrook, 7
Broad Run at Briar Woods, 7
Brooke Point at Independence, 7
Chantilly at McLean, 7
DeMatha at Freedom (Woodbridge), 7
Edison at Langley, 7
Fairfax at Centreville, 7
Forest Park at Alexandria City, 7
Friendship Collegiate at Mount Vernon, 7
Gainesville at Woodbridge, 7
Heritage at Potomac Falls, 7
Herndon at Osbourn Park, 7
Hylton at Osbourn, 7
Jefferson at Mountain View, 7
Loudoun Valley at Champe, 7
Marshall at Justice, 7
Oakton at W.T. Woodson, 7
Park View at Manassas Park, 7
Patriot at Freedom (South Riding), 7
Potomac at Colonial Forge, 7
Riverside at Dominion, 7
Robinson at Madison, 7
Sherando at Lightridge, 7
South County at West Springfield, 7
South Lakes at Falls Church, 7
Stafford at Colgan, 7
Stone Bridge at Woodgrove, 7
Strasburg at Rock Ridge, 7
Tuscarora at Loudoun County, 7
Washington Liberty at Lewis, 7
Westfield at Lake Braddock, 7
Yorktown at Wakefield, 7

PRIVATE
Central Maryland Christian at Sidwell Friends, 4:30
Flint Hill at St. Christopher's, 6:30
Gonzaga at Fordham Prep (N.Y.), 7
John Carroll at Pallotti, 7
Life Christian Academy at Good Counsel, 7
Loyola Blakefield at Georgetown Prep, 7
Maret at St. Stephen's/St. Agnes, 7
McDonogh at St. Mary's (Annapolis), 7
Mt. Zion Prep at Beacon Hill HomeSchool, TBA
Potomac School at Paul VI, 7
Rock Creek Christian at Lowndes (Ga.), 8
Severn at Meade, 7
St. Paul's at Landon, 4
Valley Forge Military Academy at Model, 7
Virginia Academy at St. John's Catholic Prep, 6:30

SATURDAY'S GAMES
D.C.
KIPP at Cardozo, noon

MARYLAND
Chesapeake at Queen Anne's, noon
Gwynn Park at Douglass, 2
Largo at Central, 2
Potomac at Crossland, 2

PRIVATE
Archbishop Spalding at Imhotep Charter (Pa.), 2
Riverdale Baptist at Bishop McNamara, 1
St. Albans at Bishop O'Connell, noon
St. John's at Erasmus Hall (N.Y.), noon
St. Mary's Ryken at Mount St. Joseph, 1
St. Michael the Archangel at Episcopal, 2

TRANSACTIONS

NFL

Chicago Bears: Signed OL Matt Farniok to the practice squad.
Green Bay Packers: Waived RB Lew Nichols from injured reserve with a settlement.
Kansas City Chiefs: Promoted TE Matt Bushman and DT Matt Dickerson from the practice squad to the active roster.
Los Angeles Chargers: Waived WR Milton Wright from injured reserve with a settlement.
Los Angeles Rams: Waived LB Ryan Smenda Jr. from injured reserve with a settlement.
Minnesota Vikings: Signed S Josh Metellus to a two-year contract extension. Waived DB Tay Gowan from injured reserve with a settlement.
Philadelphia Eagles: Signed LB Kyron Johnson and DB Tiawan Mullen to the practice squad. Released WR Joseph Ngata and TE Brady Russell from the practice squad.

GOLF

LPGA Tour

QUEEN CITY CHAMPIONSHIP
At Kendale Course; in Cincinnati
Purse: $2 million
Yardage: 6,515; **Par:** 72

FIRST ROUND

Ruixin Liu	31	34	—	65	-7
Dottie Ardina	30	36	—	66	-6
Peiyun Chien	32	34	—	66	-6
Linnea Strom	32	34	—	66	-6
Elizabeth Szokol	34	32	—	66	-6
Hye Jin Choi	34	33	—	67	-5
Perrine Delacour	35	32	—	67	-5
Charley Hull	35	32	—	67	-5
Minjee Lee	32	35	—	67	-5
Emily Pedersen	34	33	—	67	-5
Hae-Ran Ryu	34	33	—	67	-5
Maria Fassi	35	33	—	68	-4
Linnea Johansson	32	36	—	68	-4
Lydia Ko	34	34	—	68	-4
Stephanie Meadow	35	33	—	68	-4
Morgane Metraux	32	36	—	68	-4
Yealimi Noh	35	33	—	68	-4
Mariajo Uribe	35	33	—	68	-4
Ruoning Yin	33	35	—	68	-4
Pavarisa Yoktuan	33	35	—	68	-4
Brittany Altomare	34	35	—	69	-3
Ally Ewing	35	34	—	69	-3
Lauren Hartlage	35	34	—	69	-3
Dani Holmqvist	34	35	—	69	-3
Moriya Jutanugarn	37	32	—	69	-3
Ariya Jutanugarn	34	35	—	69	-3
Jennifer Kupcho	34	35	—	69	-3
Ines Laklalech	33	36	—	69	-3
Sydnee Michaels	35	34	—	69	-3
Gabriela Ruffels	35	34	—	69	-3
Madelene Sagstrom	35	34	—	69	-3
Yuka Saso	34	35	—	69	-3
Lauren Stephenson	34	35	—	69	-3
Bailey Tardy	35	34	—	69	-3
Gabriella Then	36	33	—	69	-3
Jaravee Boonchant	33	37	—	70	-2
Lauren Coughlin	33	37	—	70	-2
Esther Henseleit	33	37	—	70	-2
Christina Kim	34	36	—	70	-2
Frida Kinhult	35	35	—	70	-2
Nanna Koerstz Madsen	35	35	—	70	-2
Pernilla Lindberg	35	35	—	70	-2
Sung Hyun Park	36	34	—	70	-2
Pornanong Phatlum	35	35	—	70	-2
Riley Rennell	37	33	—	70	-2
Jenny Shin	34	36	—	70	-2
Jennifer Song	38	32	—	70	-2
Rose Zhang	36	34	—	70	-2
Cydney Clanton	35	36	—	71	-1
Brianna Do	35	36	—	71	-1
Lindy Duncan	37	34	—	71	-1
Brooke Henderson	35	36	—	71	-1
Soo Bin Joo	34	37	—	71	-1
Grace Kim	35	36	—	71	-1
Stephanie Kyriacou	38	33	—	71	-1
Andrea Lee	35	36	—	71	-1
Amelia Lewis	35	36	—	71	-1
Yan Liu	35	36	—	71	-1
Gaby Lopez	36	35	—	71	-1
Azahara Munoz	35	36	—	71	-1
Annie Park	36	35	—	71	-1
Mel Reid	36	35	—	71	-1
Emma Talley	37	34	—	71	-1
Kelly Tan	37	34	—	71	-1
Chanettee Wannasaen	36	35	—	71	-1
Angel Yin	37	34	—	71	-1
Arpichaya Yubol	36	35	—	71	-1
Weiwei Zhang	35	36	—	71	-1
Na Rin An	36	36	—	72	E
Ana Belac	34	38	—	72	E
Allisen Corpuz	37	35	—	72	E
Paula Creamer	37	35	—	72	E
Mia Hammond	34	38	—	72	E
Caroline Inglis	37	35	—	72	E
Sarah Kemp	37	35	—	72	E
Gina Kim	34	38	—	72	E
Jeong Eun Lee5	39	33	—	72	E
Lucy Li	36	36	—	72	E
Yuna Nishimura	35	37	—	72	E
Haru Nomura	36	36	—	72	E
Kiira Riihijarvi	37	35	—	72	E
Luna Sobron Galmes	36	36	—	72	E
Marissa Steen	35	37	—	72	E
Ellinor Sudow	36	36	—	72	E
Maddie Szeryk	37	35	—	72	E
Samantha Wagner	36	36	—	72	E
Xiaowen Yin	37	35	—	72	E
Jennifer Chang	35	38	—	73	+1
Olivia Cowan	37	36	—	73	+1
Dana Fall	37	36	—	73	+1
Sofia Garcia	39	34	—	73	+1
Nasa Hataoka	36	37	—	73	+1
Muni He	38	35	—	73	+1
Yaeeun Hong	35	38	—	73	+1
Wei-Ling Hsu	33	40	—	73	+1
Hyo Joon Jang	37	36	—	73	+1
Faith Kilgore	37	36	—	73	+1
Bronte Law	35	38	—	73	+1
Jeongeun Lee6	35	38	—	73	+1
Xiyu Lin	38	35	—	73	+1
Polly Mack	37	36	—	73	+1
Wichanee Meechai	34	39	—	73	+1
Bianca Pagdanganan	38	35	—	73	+1
Alexa Pano	36	37	—	73	+1
Valery Plata	36	37	—	73	+1
Paula Reto	35	38	—	73	+1
Sarah Schmelzel	35	38	—	73	+1
Sophia Schubert	36	37	—	73	+1
Hinako Shibuno	36	37	—	73	+1
Mariah Stackhouse	34	39	—	73	+1
Lexi Thompson	37	36	—	73	+1
Dewi Weber	36	37	—	73	+1
Jing Yan	37	36	—	73	+1
Pajaree Anannarukarn	37	37	—	74	+2
Ashleigh Buhai	37	37	—	74	+2
Linn Grant	40	34	—	74	+2
Mina Harigae	36	38	—	74	+2
Minami Katsu	39	35	—	74	+2
Aline Krauter	36	38	—	74	+2
Ilhee Lee	37	37	—	74	+2
Mi Hyang Lee	34	40	—	74	+2
Yu Liu	35	39	—	74	+2
Jasmine Suwannapura	36	38	—	74	+2
Marina Alex	37	38	—	75	+3
Allison Emrey	37	38	—	75	+3
Jodi Ewart Shadoff	38	37	—	75	+3
A Lim Kim	38	37	—	75	+3
Sei Young Kim	37	38	—	75	+3
Cheyenne Knight	37	38	—	75	+3
Brittany Lincicome	36	39	—	75	+3
Pauline Roussin	37	38	—	75	+3
Magdalena Simmermacher	36	39	—	75	+3
Albane Valenzuela	37	38	—	75	+3
Amy Yang	40	35	—	75	+3
Min Lee	38	38	—	76	+4
Su-Hyun Oh	38	38	—	76	+4
Celine Borge	37	40	—	77	+5
Matilda Castren	36	41	—	77	+5
Karis Davidson	38	39	—	77	+5
Amanda Doherty	38	39	—	77	+5
Celine Herbin	42	35	—	77	+5
Wenbo Liu	38	39	—	77	+5
Yu-Sang Hou	40	38	—	78	+6
Maria Torres	41	39	—	80	+8

DP World Tour

IRISH OPEN
At K Club; in Kildare, Ireland
Purse: $6 million
Yardage: 7,441; **Par:** 72

FIRST ROUND

Shubhankar Sharma, India	33	32	—	65	-7
Thomas Bjorn, Denmark	32	34	—	66	-6
Ross Fisher, England	31	35	—	66	-6
Kristian Krogh Johannessen, Norway	33	33	—	66	-6
Marcel Schneider, Germany	31	35	—	66	-6
Jordan L. Smith, England	33	33	—	66	-6
Wu Ashun, China	33	34	—	67	-5
Julien Brun, France	33	34	—	67	-5
Mikael Lindberg, Sweden	34	33	—	67	-5
Zander Lombard, South Africa	33	34	—	67	-5
Hurly Long, Germany	33	34	—	67	-5
Joost Luiten, Netherlands	32	35	—	67	-5
Luke Donald, England	33	35	—	68	-4
Angel Hidalgo, Spain	32	36	—	68	-4
Daniel Hillier, New Zealand	33	35	—	68	-4
Shane Lowry, Ireland	33	35	—	68	-4
Vincent Norrman, Sweden	33	35	—	68	-4
John Parry, England	34	34	—	68	-4
Yannik Paul, Germany	33	35	—	68	-4
Matthieu Pavon, France	34	34	—	68	-4
Mark Power, Ireland	33	35	—	68	-4
Sebastian Soderberg, Sweden	31	37	—	68	-4
Nicolai Von Dellingshausen, Germany	35	33	—	68	-4
Jeunghun Wang, South Korea	35	33	—	68	-4
Gunner Wiebe, United States	35	33	—	68	-4
Fabrizio Zanotti, Paraguay	34	34	—	68	-4
Daniel Brown, England	34	35	—	69	-3
Todd Clements, England	35	34	—	69	-3
Hennie Du Plessis, South Africa	36	33	—	69	-3
Alex Fitzpatrick, England	33	36	—	69	-3
Simon Forsstrom, Sweden	33	36	—	69	-3
Gavin Green, Malaysia	33	36	—	69	-3
Calum Hill, Scotland	34	35	—	69	-3
Billy Horschel, United States	33	36	—	69	-3
Scott Jamieson, Scotland	35	34	—	69	-3
Maximilian Kieffer, Germany	36	33	—	69	-3
Pablo Larrazabal, Spain	33	36	—	69	-3
Alexander Levy, France	33	36	—	69	-3
Richard Mansell, England	34	35	—	69	-3
Rory McIlroy, Northern Ireland	33	36	—	69	-3
Adrian Meronk, Poland	34	35	—	69	-3
Guido Migliozzi, Italy	34	35	—	69	-3
Niklas Norgaard Moller, Denmark	34	35	—	69	-3
Jason Scrivener, Australia	34	35	—	69	-3
Connor Syme, Scotland	34	35	—	69	-3
Kiradech Aphibarnrat, Thailand	35	35	—	70	-2
Nick Bachem, Germany	34	36	—	70	-2
Wil Besseling, Netherlands	35	35	—	70	-2
Jorge Campillo, Spain	36	34	—	70	-2
Sean Crocker, United States	35	35	—	70	-2
Nacho Elvira, Spain	32	38	—	70	-2
Ewen Ferguson, Scotland	34	36	—	70	-2
Grant Forrest, Scotland	33	37	—	70	-2
Deon Germishuys, South Africa	37	33	—	70	-2
Kazuki Higa, Japan	34	36	—	70	-2
Daan Huizing, Netherlands	31	39	—	70	-2
Jazz Janewattananond, Thailand	36	34	—	70	-2
Soren Kjeldsen, Denmark	33	37	—	70	-2
David Law, Scotland	35	35	—	70	-2
Tapio Pulkkanen, Finland	33	37	—	70	-2
Aaron Rai, England	33	37	—	70	-2
Adrien Saddier, France	35	35	—	70	-2
Santiago Tarrio, Spain	34	36	—	70	-2
Darius Van Driel, Netherlands	33	37	—	70	-2

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C JOBS

Newspapers carriers needed to deliver

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in the DC, MD and VA area

Excellent part-time income opportunity!
Transportation required

To apply, go to deliverthepost.com

1405 Cars

BMW

BMW 1994 325iS - 5 speed coupe, garage kept, 66,473 miles, recent tune up. $5,500. Call **240-603-8299**

1408 Antiques & Classics

WANTED VINTAGE SPORTS CARS & CLASSICS - Especially Mercedes, Porsche, Jaguar. Lexus, Datsun Z, Highest prices paid for the very best examples.
Call Bob 703-966-0122

1447 Autos Wanted

DONATE YOUR CAR/TRUCK/RV
Lutheran Mission Society of MD Compassion Place ministries help local families with food, clothing, counseling. Tax deductible. MVA licensed #W1044.
410-228-8437
www.CompassionPlace.org

E JOBS

District Electrical Services (DES) is actively seeking Electricians with DC Journeymen licenses for local construction projects.

815 Legal Notices

NOTICE OF RECEIVER'S SALE OF BUSINESS ASSETS

Gray & Associates, LLC is the Court-Appointed Receiver ("Receiver") for CMS Holdings Group, LLC, CMS Processing, LLC and Merchant Portfolio Management Services, LLC and certain subsidiaries and affiliates (the "Companies") in the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Maryland. The Receiver has entered into an Asset Purchase Agreement for the sale of substantially all assets of the Companies, and for the assumption and assignment of certain contracts and leases to the proposed buyer ("Proposed Sale"). The Proposed Sale is subject to approval by the Circuit Court and is subject to competing bids.
The Companies are engaged in the business of selling and servicing payment processing products and services for merchants through the brand "Clarus Merchant Services" (the "Business"). The Proposed Sale includes the assignment of rights under various reseller and marketing agreements with merchant processing providers (the "Referral Agreements") and the underlying recurring commission revenue derived from merchant accounts that were referred under the Referral Agreements. The Proposed Sale also includes certain other contracts and leases integral to the Business.
The purchase price for the Proposed Sale is a minimum of $28,700,000, subject to certain adjustments, and the purchase is not subject to any financing or funding contingencies of any kind. The deadline for submitting a competing bid to the Receiver is September 11, 2023. To qualify as a competing bid, the bidder must increase the minimum purchase price by at least $2,000,000 (i.e., to $30,700,000) and submit a cash deposit of $500,000. Certain terms and deadlines (including the deadline for submission of competing bids) are subject to change and other terms and conditions apply. For further information regarding the Proposed Sale or for information regarding the requirements for submission of a competing bid, contact the Receiver at: CMS-AssetSale@grayassoc.com.

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
PROBATE DIVISION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2131
2023 ADM 1018

Estate of
Gladys L. Corley aka Gladys Louise Corley
Deceased

NOTICE OF STANDARD PROBATE
Notice is hereby given that a petition has been filed in this Court by Isaac H. Marks, Sr. for standard probate, including the appointment of one or more personal representatives. Unless a responsive pleading in the form of a complaint or an objection in accordance with Superior Court Probate Division Rule 407 is filed in this Court within 30 days from the date of first publication of this notice, the Court may take the action hereinafter set forth.
Order any interested person to show cause why the provisions of the lost or destroyed will dated May 24, 2007 should not be admitted to probate as expressed in the petition.

Isaac H. Marks, Sr. Esquire
11785 Beltsville Drive, Suite 150
Calverton, MD 20705
(301) 572-7391
PETITIONER
Nicole D. Stevens
REGISTER OF WILLS

851 Prince Georges County

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF PRINCE GEORGE'S, MARYLAND

WILLIAM M. SAVAGE, et al.
Trustee(s)
Plaintiff(s)

vs.

PHILLIP BALL, JR A/K/A PHILLIP BALL JR.
Defendant(s)
Mortgagor(s)

CIVIL NO: CAEF19-36519

NOTICE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, this 22 day of August, 2023 by the Circuit Court for the County of Prince George's, Maryland and by the authority thereof, that the sale made by William M. Savage, Gregory N. Britto, Trustees, of the Real Property designated as **11204 Pompey Dr., Upper Marlboro, MD 20772**, and reported in the above entitled cause, will be finally ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the 22 day of September, 2023 next; provided a copy of this order be inserted in THE WASHINGTON POST, 1150 15th Street, Washington, DC, MD published in said County of Prince George's once a week for three successive weeks before the 22 day of September, 2023.
The report states the amount of the sale to be **$933,000.00**.

Mahasin El Amin #793
Clerk of the Circuit Court For County of Prince George's

LOGS LEGAL GROUP LLP
10021 Balls Ford Rd, Suite 200
Manassas, Virginia 20109
(703) 449-5800
Trustee File #19-284719

Sep 1,8,15 2023 0012433393

852 Anne Arundel County

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

William M. Savage, et al.
Substitute Trustees

Versus

Edwin Drummond
Angela Kibbe Drummond
Defendants

No. C-02-CV-23-000326

NOTICE
Notice is hereby issued this **Friday, August 18, 2023** that the sale of the property in the proceedings mentioned, made and reported by William M. Savage, BE RATIFIED AND CONFIRMED, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the **18th day of September 2023** next; provided, a copy of this Notice be inserted in some newspaper published in Anne Arundel County, once in each of three successive weeks before the **18th day of September 2023** next. The report states that the amount of sale of the property at **2005 BRODICK LANE, GAMBRILLS, MD 21054** to be **$595,000.00**.

Scott A. Poyer
Circuit Court for
Anne Arunde; County, MD

Aug 25,Sep 1,8 2023 0012433020

853 Calvert County

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR CALVERT COUNTY, MARYLAND

Diane Rosenberg, et al.
4340 East West Highway
Suite 600
Bethesda, MD 20814
Substitute Trustees
Plaintiff(s)

v.

Joseph C Santos
Sharon Santos
3841 Sunrise Drive
Huntingtown, MD 20639
Defendant(s)

Case No. C-04-CV-23-000079

NOTICE
Notice is hereby given this 21st day of August, 2023 by the Circuit Court for Calvert County, Maryland, that the sale of **3841 Sunrise Drive Huntingtown, MD 20639**, made and reported, will be ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the 20th day of September, 2023, provided a copy of this notice be inserted in a daily newspaper printed in said County, once in each of three successive weeks before the 20th day of September, 2023. The Report of Sale states the amount of the foreclosure sale price to be **$495,000.00**.

Kathy P. Smith
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Calvert County, Maryland

Sep 1,8,15 2023 0012433389

MD • MONTGOMERY
Houses

Beautiful 2 bedroom, 1.5 bathroom condo at 886 College Pkwy #88-30, Rockville, MD ready for new tenants! $2,200/mo. Contact Kriscia Flores at 301-957-1694 for more information

815 Legal Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE
Availability of Draft Fiscal Year Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER)

The City of Gaithersburg is preparing the Federal Fiscal Year 2022 Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER), which covers the grant period of July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023. Submission of this Plan is a requirement to receive Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). All activities funded by CDBG must meet one of HUD's national objectives and goals: to provide decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities, principally for low- to moderate-income persons.

The City's draft FY 22 CAPER reports on accomplishments of the past fiscal year and progress towards achieving goals identified in the 2018-2023 Consolidated Plan and the FY22 Annual Action Plan.

Residents and interested parties may provide feedback to the City on its FY22 CAPER in several ways. The Draft CAPER will be available for public comment for a 15-day period beginning on September 7, 2023, and ending at 5 p.m. on September 24, 2023. The Draft FY22 CAPER will be available for review and public comment at the following locations:

City Hall
31 S. Summit Ave.
Gaithersburg, MD 20877

Quince Orchard Library
15831 Quince Orchard Blvd.
Gaithersburg, MD 20878

The Draft FY22 CAPER will also be available for review on the City's webpage at www.gaithersburgmd.gov/services/housing-services.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring reasonable accommodation related to a disability is asked to advise the City. Contact Human Resources Department at hr@gaithersburgmd.gov or 301-258-6327.

For further information, contact Brittany Marinello at 240-805-1022 or brittany.marinello@gaithersburgmd.gov.

825 Bids & Proposals

DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING ADVERTISEMENT

COMMENT ON THE DESIGN OF THE PRINCE WILLIAM PARKWAY AT MINNIEVILLE ROAD INTERCHANGE PROJECT

NEABSCO MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT

VENUE:
The County Board Room
1 County Complex Court, Woodbridge, VA 22192

The Prince William County Department of Transportation will conduct a Design Public Hearing for the Prince William Parkway (Rte. 294) at Minnieville Road Interchange Project at the **County Boardroom 1 County Complex Court, Woodbridge, VA, 22192, at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday October 10, 2023**. The event will be streamed live virtually through the link posted on the Prince William Board of County Supervisors webpage at: https://www.pwcva.gov/department/board-county-supervisors. In the event of inclement weather, this Design Public Hearing will be rescheduled for a later date. Public notifications and readvertisement will be issued accordingly.

The purpose of this public hearing is to ensure that the public is provided with an opportunity to both review and discuss the proposed improvements and potential impacts to the surrounding properties. This hearing will also provide an opportunity for public feedback on the current design of this interchange improvement project. Project plans, information regarding property impacts and right-of-way and relocation assistance will be available at this public hearing and 30 days prior to the hearing. A tentative project schedule will also be discussed at the meeting.

The project consists of constructing a grade-separated single point urban interchange at Prince William Parkway and Minnieville Road, improvements along Prince William Parkway from Elm Farm Road to Golansky Boulevard, and improvements along Minnieville Road from Madrona Lane to Elm Farm Road.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act and 23 CFR 771.117, a Categorical Exclusion (CE) document is being prepared to assess the project's potential effects upon environmental resources and to determine if there are any significant environmental impacts. The CE will be made available for public viewing a minimum of 10-days prior to the public hearing following the information below. A copy of the CE will also be available for review at the location of the public hearing. Pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 and 36 CFR 800, information concerning the potential effects of the proposed improvements on historic properties is included in the CE.

The public can also review the project's information and Design Public Hearing plans on the Prince William County Department of Transportation website at: https://www.pwcva.gov/department/transportation/current-road-projects

Deadline to submit comments is October 25, 2023. The public may provide comments via the following methods:
- Written or verbal comments in person at the Design Public Hearing.
- By mail to the Project Manager: Mr. Hoainam Nguyen at Prince William County Department of Transportation Office (5 County Complex Court, Suite 290, Prince William, VA, 22192).
- By email to the Project Manager: Mr. Hoainam Nguyen at HNguyen@pwcgov.org (please reference "Prince William Parkway at Minnieville Road Interchange" in the subject heading).

Prince William County ensures nondiscrimination in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. For more information, call 703-792-4228 or TDD 703-792-5223.

Accessibility to Persons with Disabilities: The Design Public Hearing is being held at a public facility accessible to persons with disabilities. If you need more information or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, please contact Mr. Hoainam Nguyen at 703-792-6825 (TTY: 711) or HNguyen@pwcgov.org no later than Tuesday, September 26, 2023.

ELSIE WHITLOW STOKES COMMUNITY FREEDOM PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Multiple Services

Elsie Whitlow Stokes PCS invites all interested and qualified vendors to submit proposals for the services below. The RFP with bidding requirements and supporting documentation can be obtained by emailing procurement@ewstokes.org.

- Legal Services
- Educational Services
- Temping Agencies
- General Contracting Services
- Office/Furniture Supplies
- Accounting Services
- SIS
- Payroll Services
- Insurance/Benefit Services
- Transportation Services
- Cleaning Services
- SPED services
- Financial Auditor (auditors must be a part of the Approved Auditor list for DC Charter Schools)
- Supply and Delivery of Grocery Products (National School Lunch Program)

Bidders can provide the following in response to proposals: an organizational capability statement, resume of principals, three (3) references, an invoice that includes the scope of work, and a detailed scope of work with a cost estimate. Submissions shall be emailed as PDF documents no later than noon on September 22, 2023, to procurement@ewstokes.org. When submitting the response to the RFP, please make the subject the service type you are responding to.

Please, no calls.

MARYLAND
Roommates

GERMANTOWN 1 BR in a house including share BA, kitchen, cable, wifi & W/D . F pref. **$550/ mo Email nkansah1@Verizon.net or call Benjamin 301-529-5472**

Silver Spring-Apt for 1 in hse, your own kitchn, den,bdrm,bath, N/pet,N/smokg, bus1blk, $1150 incl util 301-681-4321

245 Electronics

FREE high-speed internet for those that qualify. Government program for recipients of select programs incl. Medicaid, SNAP, Housing Assistance, WIC, Veterans Pension, Survivor Benefits, Lifeline, Tribal. 15 GB internet service. **Bonus offer**: Android tablet FREE with one-time $20 copay. **Free shipping & handling**. Call Maxsip Telecom today! 1-888-592-5957

Switch to DISH and get up to a **$300 gift card!** Plus get the **Multisport pack** included for a limited time! Hurry, call for details: 1-855-407-6870

265 Home & Garden

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 15% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-844-566-3227.

355 Garage Sales, VA

Fairfax, - 4172 Governor Yeardley Ln. Sat 9/9, 7:30a. Clothes, toys, tools, collctibls cos. jewelry Rain date 9/16

LOOK
FARRCROFT COMMUNITY off 236 in the heart of Fairfax City. **Sat 9/9, 8-1. Raindate: Sun 9/10**

610 Dogs for Sale

BORDER COLLIE PUPPIES - Fantastically well bred, for companion/farm/home, all colors, males/females, completely vetted. **540-841-4415**

CAVACHON PUPPIES IN VIRGINIA
Adorable baby doll faces. Ready weekend. M/F. Local breeder raised in home. 703-362-8718 www.dcdogfinders.com

840 Trustees Sale - DC

Brock and Scott, PLLC
5431 Oleander Drive
Wilmington NC, 28403

In execution of the Superior Court for the District of Columbia's Decree of Sale in , 2020 CA 001819 R(RP) the undersigned Trustee(s) will offer for sale the property known as **1635 Montello Ave NE Units # 1-4, Washington, DC 20002** at public auction within the offices of, HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, INC. 5335 Wisconsin Avenue NW Suite 440, Washington, DC 20015 202-463-4567 On **SEPTEMBER 19, 2023 AT 11:30 AM**, the land and premises situated in the District of Columbia, and designated as and being in 2019031368, and more particularly described in the Deed of Trust recorded in the Land Records of the District of Columbia, on March 6, 2019 as Instrument Number 2019031368.

Lots numbered Seventy-one (71) and Seventy-two (72) in Drury 's subdivision of lots in Block numbered Twelve (12), "TRINIDAD", as per plat recorded in the Office of the Surveyor for the District of Columbia in Liber 76 at folio 62. NOTE: At the date hereof the above described land is known for assessment taxation purposes as Lots numbered Seventy-one (71) and Seventy-two (72) in Square numbered Forty Hundred Fifty-five (4055)

The property will be sold by Trustee's Deed "as is" without any covenant, expressed or implied, in Fee Simple, subject to conditions, restrictions, easements, and all other recorded instruments superior to the Deed of Trust referenced above, and subject to ratification by the Court

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of the lesser of $ 125,500.00 or 10% of the sale price will be required at time of sale in cash or certified funds. The deposit required to bid at the auction is waived for the Noteholder and any of its successors or assigns. The Noteholder may bid up to the credit and may submit a written bid to the Trustee which shall be announced at sale. The balance of the purchase price is to be paid in cash within 30 days of final ratification of the sale by the Court.

TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE.
If purchaser fails to settle within the aforesaid thirty (30) days of the ratification, the purchaser agrees to pay the Trustees' reasonable attorney fees as ordered by the Court, plus all costs incurred, if the Trustees have filed the appropriate motion with the Court to resell the property. Purchaser waives personal service of any paper filed with the Court in connection with such motion and any Show Cause Order issued by the Court and expressly agrees to accept service of any such paper or Order by certified mail and regular mail sent to the address provided by the purchaser and as recorded on the documents executed by the purchaser at the time of the sale. Service shall be deemed effective upon the purchaser 3 days after postmarked by the United States Post Office. It is expressly agreed by the purchaser that actual receipt of the certified mail is not required for service to be effective. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement the deposit shall be forfeited to the Trustees and all expenses of this sale (including attorney fees and full commission on the gross sales price of the sale) shall be charged against and paid from the forfeited deposit. In the event of resale the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds or profits resulting from any resale of the property regardless of any improvements made to the real property. Interest is to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date the funds are received in the office of the Trustees. In the event that the settlement is delayed for ANY REASON WHATSOEVER, there shall be no abatement of interest. Taxes, water rent, condominium fees and/or homeowner association dues, all public charges/assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, to be adjusted for the current year to date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for the costs of all transfer taxes, documentary stamps and all other costs incident to settlement. Purchaser shall be responsible for physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss from the date of sale forward. The sale is subject to post sale audit by the Mortgage holder to determine whether the borrower filed bankruptcy, entered into any repayment/forbearance agreement, reinstated or paid off prior to the sale. In any such event the Purchaser agrees that upon notification by the Trustees of such event the sale is null and void and of no legal effect and the deposit returned without interest.

John Ansell, Jeremy B. Wilkins,
Robert A. Oliveri, Amanda Driscole,
Paul Heinmuller, John C. Hanrahan,
Kristopher Hawkins,
Substitute Trustee(s)

Trustees' File No. 22-17169

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, INC.
5335 Wisconsin Ave., NW, Ste 440
Washington, DC 20015
202-463-4567
www.hwestauctions.com

Aug 25,Sep 1,8 2023 0012432667

WASHINGTON GLOBAL LAW GROUP, PLLC
1701 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, NW, SUITE 200
WASHINGTON, DC 20006

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE
TWO-STORY RESIDENTIAL
SINGLE FAMILY (SEMI-DETACHED)
2349 S STREET, SE, WASHINGTON, DC 20020

By virtue of a certain Commercial Deed of Trust, Security Agreement and Fixture Filing (Commercial Purposes) dated February 9, 2022 and duly recorded on February 11, 2022 as Instrument No. 2022016362 among the Land Records of the District of Columbia (the "Land Records") and Collateral Assignments of Leases and Rents recorded February 11, 2022 as Instrument No. 2022016363 among the Land Records and in accordance with Public Law 90-566 notice recorded among the Land Record as Instrument No. 2023071710 a default having occurred in the payment of the indebtedness secured thereby and the covenants contained therein, and at the request of the party secured thereby (the "Noteholder"), the undersigned Substitute Trustee, will sell, at public auction, within the office of ALEX COOPER AUCTIONEERS, INC., 4910 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, N.W., SUITE 100, WASHINGTON, D.C. on

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2023 AT 10:10 AM

All right, title and interest in and to those premises more commonly known as 2349 S Street, Southeast, Washington, DC 20020 which is more particularly described as follows:
Lot numbered Forty-five (45) in Square numbered Fifty-six Hundred Twenty-seven (5627) in the U.S. Realty Company's subdivision of part of Randle Highlands as per plat recorded in Liber county 21 at folio 31 in the Office of the Surveyor for the District of Columbia.
Note: At the date hereof, the above-described property is known for purposes of assessment and taxation as Square 5627, Lot 0045.
TOGETHER WITH any and all buildings, structures, improvements or appurtenances now erected on the above-described land, including, without limitation, all equipment, apparatus, machinery and fixtures of any kind or character forming a part of said buildings, structures, improvements or appurtenances, and any furniture, furnishings, equipment, machinery and other personal property owned and located in, upon or about the above-described land and any buildings thereon all as more particularly described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust (the "Property").
TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. The Property will be offered as an entirety only. The bid which yields the highest price for the Property will be accepted by the Substitute Trustee (unless the sale is postponed or cancelled) and all bids will be provisional until acceptance. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Substitute Trustee absolutely reserves the right to postpone the sale and/or cancel the sale at any time until the auctioneer announces that the Property is "sold" and the deposit in the required amount and form is received by the Substitute Trustee. A deposit in the amount of $19,000 will be required at the time of sale. Such deposit must be by cashier's check or certified check or in such other form as the Substitute Trustee may determine in his sole discretion. The Noteholder secured by the Deed of Trust (or any related party) shall be exempted by the Substitute Trustee from submitting any bidding deposit. The Substitute Trustee will, as a condition of the sale, require all potential bidders except the Noteholder to show their deposit before any bidding begins. The retained deposit of the successful purchaser shall be applied, without interest, to the successful purchaser's credit at settlement, provided, however, that in the event the successful purchaser fails to consummate the purchase in accordance with the terms of sale as herein provided, such deposit, at the option of the Substitute Trustee, will be forfeited. The terms of sale must be complied with and settlement consummated thereon within 30 days from day of sale unless extended at the sole discretion of the Substitute Trustee. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. The balance of the purchase price over and above the retained deposit, with interest thereon at the note rate then being charged from the date of sale through the date of receipt of the balance of the purchase price, will be due at settlement in certified funds; and if not so paid, the Substitute Trustee reserves the right to retain the deposit and resell the Property at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser, after such advertisement and on such terms as the Substitute Trustee may deem proper, and to avail themselves and the Noteholder of any legal or equitable rights against the defaulting purchaser.
The Property is sold subject to the rights, if any, of parties in possession, if such rights have priority over the Deed of Trust, and to any and all covenants, conditions, restrictions, easements, rights of way, and limitations of record. The Property will be sold "WHERE IS" and in "AS IS" condition without any warranty as to condition, express or implied, and without any representation or warranty as to the accuracy of the information furnished to prospective bidders by the Substitute Trustee or any other party and without any other representations or warranty of any nature. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Property will be sold without representation or warranty as to (i) title to the Property, (ii) the nature, condition, structural integrity, or fitness for a particular use of any improvements, fixtures or personal property included within the Property, (iii) the environmental condition of the Property or the compliance of the Property with federal, state and local laws and regulations concerning the presence or disposal of hazardous substances, (iv) compliance of the Property with the Americans with Disabilities Act or any similar law, or (v) compliance of the Property with any zoning laws or ordinances and any and all applicable safety codes, and acceptance of the Deed to the Property by the successful purchaser shall constitute a waiver of any claims against the Substitute Trustee or the Noteholder concerning any of the foregoing matters. The successful purchaser recognizes that any investigation, examination or inspection of the Property is within the control of the owner or other parties in possession of the Property and not within the control of the Substitute Trustee or the Noteholder.
Conveyance shall be by Substitute Trustee's Deed, without covenant or warranty, express or implied. The risk of loss or damage by fire or other casualty to the Property from and after the date of sale will be upon the successful purchaser. Sold subject to all taxes, ground rents, public charges, assessments, sewer, water, drainage and other public improvements whether assessments have been levied or not. The Noteholder and Substitute Trustee assume no liability for fuel, gas, electricity, utilities and other operating charges accrued before or after the sale and all such charges shall be the sole responsibility of the purchaser from the date of sale. All costs incident to the settlement and conveyancing including, without limitation, examination of title, conveyancing, all recordation taxes and charges, all transfer taxes and charges, title insurance premiums, notary fees, settlement fees and all other costs incident to settlement shall be at the cost of the successful purchaser. If the Substitute Trustee cannot convey title, the purchaser's sole remedy is a return of deposit. Further particulars may be announced at the time of sale. For further information, please contact Kermit A. Rosenberg, Esquire at 202.683.2014.

Substitute Trustee
Kermit A. Rosenberg

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
4910 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. • Suite 100
Washington, DC 20016 • 202.364.0306
www.alexcooper.com

Sep 8,11,13,14,15 2023 0012433942

COHN, GOLDBERG & DEUTSCH, LLC
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
1099 WINTERSON ROAD
SUITE 301
LINTHICUM HEIGHTS, MARYLAND 21090

TRUSTEES' FORECLOSURE SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

1200 Potomac Street NW, T5, Washington, DC 20007

The undersigned Trustees will sell at public auction at Alex Cooper's Auctioneers, 4910 Massachusetts Avenue N.W. Suite 100, Washington, DC 20016, on

September 14, 2023 AT 2:00 P.M.

THE ABOVE-DESCRIBED PROPERTY AND IMPROVEMENTS THEREON situated in Washington, DC and more fully described in a Deed of Trust from 1200 Potomac NW LLC, dated August 4, 2022, recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for the District of Columbia at Instrument Number 2022085175 on August 12, 2022 with an original principal balance of $1,069,782.10, and an original annual interest rate of 10.50%, with a default rate of 23% per annum, default having occurred under the terms thereof.
Part of Lot 41 in Square 1206 in a subdivision made by M & Potomac Street Associates Limited Partnership, as per plat recorded in Liber 171 at folio 149 among the Records of the Office of the Surveyor for the District of Columbia.
The part of the land being more particularly designated as Unit No. T-5 of the Eton, a Condominium, according to the Declaration of Condominium recorded April 8, 1981 as Instrument No. 11438 and By-Laws relating thereto recorded April 8, 1981 as Instrument No. 11439among the Land Records of the District of Columbia, and as per Plat of Condominium Subdivision recorded in Condominium Book No. 28 at page 18 of the Records of the Office of the Surveyor for the District of Columbia.
NOTE: At the date hereof the above-described land is designated on the Records of the Assessor of the District of Columbia for taxation and assessment purposes as Lot 2015 in Square 1206.
TOGETHER WITH all of the appurtenances incident to said Unit(s), as contained in the Declaration of Condominium.
SUBJECT, HOWEVER, to all the provisions, restrictions, easements and conditions as contained in said Declaration of Condominium and the By-Laws relating thereto.
The condominium Declaration allocates to the Condominium Unit an undivided interest (stated as a percentage) in the common elements of the Condominium (hereinafter called the "Percentage Interest"). The Percentage Interest of the Condominium Unit is set forth in the Condominium Declaration.
The improvements thereon being known as 1200 Potomac Street, NW, Unit T5, Washington, DC 20007
The property will be sold by Trustee's Deed "as is" without any covenant, expressed or implied, in fee simple subject to conditions, restrictions, easements, and all other recorded instruments superior to the Deed of Trust referenced above
TERMS OF SALE:
A deposit of the lesser of $85,000.00 or ten percent (10%) of the winning bid amount will be required at time of sale, in cash, certified check, or other form as Trustees may determine. The deposit required to bid at the auction is waived for the Noteholder and any of its successors or assigns. The Noteholder may bid up to the amount owed on the Note plus all costs and expenses of sale on credit and may submit a written bid to the Trustee which shall be announced at sale. The Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within thirty days of the sale. At the Trustees' discretion, the foreclosure purchaser, if a corporation or LLC, must produce evidence, prior to bidding, of the legal formation of such entity.
TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. If purchaser fails to settle within the aforesaid thirty (30) days of the sale, the purchaser agrees to pay the Trustees' reasonable attorney fees, plus all costs incurred, if the Trustees have to resell the property. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement the deposit shall be forfeited to the Trustees and all expenses of this sale (including attorney fees and full commission on the gross sales price of the sale) shall be charged against and paid from the forfeited deposit. In the event of a resale the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds or profits resulting from any resale of the property regardless of any improvements made to the real property. Interest is to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate of 23% per annum from the date of sale to the date the funds are received in the office of the Trustees. In the event that the settlement is delayed for ANY REASON WHATSOEVER, there shall be no abatement of interest. Taxes, water rent, condominium fees and/or homeowner association dues, all public charges/assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, to be adjusted for the current year to date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for the costs of all transfer taxes, documentary stamps and all other costs incident to settlement. Purchaser shall be responsible for physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss from the date of sale forward. The sale is subject to post sale audit by the Mortgage holder to determine whether the borrower filed bankruptcy, entered into any repayment/forbearance agreement, reinstated or paid off prior to the sale. In any such event the Purchaser agrees that upon notification by the Trustees of such event the sale is null and void and of no legal effect and the deposit returned without interest. Additional terms may be announced at sale. CGD File #460127
Richard E. Solomon, Richard J. Rogers, Michael McKeefery, Christianna Kersey, Kevin Hildebeidel, Kyle Blackstone, and Kathleen Young, Substitute Trustees

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Sep 4,6,8,11,13 2023 0012432956

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YORKIES, MALTESE, POODLE PUPS
Purebred puppies located in Ruther Glen, VA. For pics and info TEXT Marie at 210-584-8896

620 Cats

Himalayan Kittens, CFA reg, seal pointe, torti pointe and flame pointe, very affectionate, pics avail., 8 wks old. $800 each. 540-858-3392

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840 Trustees Sale - DC

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ATTORNEYS AT LAW
1099 WINTERSON ROAD
SUITE 301
LINTHICUM HEIGHTS, MARYLAND 21090

TRUSTEES' FORECLOSURE SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY

5123 8th Street NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20011

The undersigned Trustees will sell at public auction at Alex Coopers Auctioneers, 4910 Massachusetts Avenue N.W. Suite 100, Washington, DC 20016, on

September 14, 2023 AT 1:58 P.M.

THE ABOVE-DESCRIBED PROPERTY AND IMPROVEMENTS THEREON situated in Washington, DC and more fully described in a Deed of Trust from Grapplers Corp., dated April 23, 2021, recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for the District of Columbia at Instrument Number 2021056977 on April 27, 2021, with an original principal balance of $599,187.00, and an original interest rate of 10.0% per annum with a default rate of 25% per annum, default having occurred under the terms thereof.
The following described land and premises, situate in the District of Columbia and known and distinguished as: Lot Numbered Sixty-Eight 68, in the subdivision made by Morris Cafritz of Lots in Square Numbered 3149, as per plat recorded in the Office of the Surveyor for the District of Columbia in Liber 80 at Folio 7.
The property will be sold by Trustee's Deed "as is" without any covenant, expressed or implied, in fee simple subject to conditions, restrictions, easements, and all other recorded instruments superior to the Deed of Trust referenced above.
TERMS OF SALE:
A deposit of the lesser of $74,000.00 or ten percent (10%) of the winning bid amount will be required at time of sale, in cash, certified check, or other form as Trustees may determine. The deposit required to bid at the auction is waived for the Noteholder and any of its successors or assigns. The Noteholder may bid up to the amount owed on the Note plus all costs and expenses of sale on credit and may submit a written bid to the Trustee which shall be announced at sale. The Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within 30 days of the sale. At the Trustees' discretion, the foreclosure purchaser, if a corporation or LLC, must produce evidence, prior to bidding, of the legal formation of such entity.
TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. If purchaser fails to settle within the aforesaid thirty (30) days of the sale, the purchaser agrees to pay the Trustees' reasonable attorney fees, plus all costs incurred, if the Trustees have to resell the property. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement the deposit shall be forfeited to the Trustees and all expenses of this sale (including attorney fees and full commission on the gross sales price of the sale) shall be charged against and paid from the forfeited deposit. In the event of resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds or profits resulting from any resale of the property regardless of any improvements made to the real property. Interest is to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate of 25% per annum from the date of sale to the date the funds are received in the office of the Trustees. In the event that the settlement is delayed for ANY REASON WHATSOEVER, there shall be no abatement of interest. Taxes, water rent, condominium fees and/or homeowner association dues, all public charges/assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, to be adjusted for the current year to date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for the costs of all transfer taxes, documentary stamps and all other costs incident to settlement. Purchaser shall be responsible for physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss from the date of sale forward. The sale is subject to post sale audit by the Mortgage holder to determine whether the borrower filed bankruptcy, entered into any repayment/forbearance agreement, reinstated, or paid off prior to the sale. In any such event the Purchaser agrees that upon notification by the Trustees of such event the sale is null and void and of no legal effect and the deposit returned without interest. Additional terms may be announced at sale. CGD File #: 458042
Richard E. Solomon, Richard J. Rogers, Michael McKeefery, Christianna Kersey, Kevin Hildebeidel, Kyle Blackstone, and Kathleen Young, Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
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Sep 4,6,8,11,13 2023 0012432999

Pardo & Drazin, LLC
Russell S. Drazin, Attorney
4400 Jenifer Street, NW, Suite 2
Washington, DC 20015
202-223-7900

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE
OF REAL PROPERTY
2920 Vista Street, NE
Washington, DC 20018
Lot 0819 in Square 4339

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust ("Deed of Trust") dated January 5, 2021 and recorded on January 7, 2021 as Instrument No. 2021002705, from Wise Innovations LLC, grantor, to Daniel Huertas, trustee, securing that certain Commercial Deed of Trust Note dated January 5, 2021 in the principal amount of $560,000.00 default having occurred under the terms thereof, and following the mailing and recordation of a Deed of Appointment of Substitute Trustee removing Daniel Huertas as trustee and appointing Russell S. Drazin ("Substitute Trustee") as successor trustee, an Affidavit of Non-Residential Mortgage Foreclosure, and a Notice of Foreclosure Sale of Real Property or Condominium Unit, at the request of the current noteholder, Substitute Trustee will sell at public auction at the office of Harvey West Auctioneers, Inc., 5335 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Suite 440, Washington, DC 20015, on

September 12, 2023 AT 2:10 PM

ALL THAT LOT OF GROUND AND THE IMPROVEMENTS THEREON (if any) situated in the City of Washington, District of Columbia, known as 2920 Vista Street, NE, Washington, DC 20018, and more fully described in the Deed of Trust.

The property will be sold in an "AS IS" condition, with no warranty of any kind, and subject to conditions, restrictions, agreements, liens, and encumbrances of record affecting the same – except those encumbrances of record that are extinguished by operation of District of Columbia law by virtue of the foreclosure of the Deed of Trust.

Purchaser will take title to the property subject to all taxes, water and sewer charges, and other utility charges, if any. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of $50,000.00 by cashier's check will be required of purchaser at the time and place of sale. Purchaser shall settle within thirty (30) days of sale. TIME SHALL BE OF THE ESSENCE WITH RESPECT TO SETTLEMENT BY PURCHASER. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash or certified funds at settlement. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money from the date of sale to the date of settlement at the applicable interest rate set forth in the debt instrument secured by the Deed of Trust. Purchaser shall be responsible for payment of all settlement costs.

The noteholder and its affiliates, if a bidder, shall not be required to post a deposit or to pay interest.

In the event that purchaser does not settle as required for any reason, purchaser shall be in default. Upon such default, the deposit shall be forfeited to Substitute Trustee and all of the expenses of this sale (including legal fees and costs, and full commission on the gross sale price) shall be charged against and paid out of the forfeited deposit. Substitute Trustee may resell the property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser. The defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds or profits resulting from any resale of the property. Defaulting purchaser shall be liable to Substitute Trustee for legal fees and costs incurred by Substitute Trustee in connection with such default.

If Substitute Trustee is unable to settle as set forth herein, purchaser's sole remedy at law and in equity shall be limited to a refund of the deposit and the sale shall be considered null and void and of no effect whatsoever.

Substitute Trustee reserves the right, in Substitute Trustee's sole discretion, to reject any and all bids, to withdraw the property from sale at any time before or at the auction, to extend the time to receive bids, to waive or modify the deposit requirement, to waive or modify the requirement that interest be paid on the unpaid purchase money, and/or to extend the period of time for settlement.

Additional terms may be announced at the sale. The successful bidder will be required to execute and deliver to Substitute Trustee a memorandum or contract of the sale at the conclusion of bidding.

Russell S. Drazin, Substitute Trustee

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, INC.
5335 Wisconsin Ave., NW, Ste 440
Washington, DC 20015
202-463-4567
www.hwestauctions.com

Aug 29,31,Sep 4,6,8 2023 L0011369

840 Trustees Sale - DC

Offit Kurman
Attorneys at Law
7501 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 1000W
Bethesda, Maryland 20814

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF
END UNIT BRICK ROWHOUSE
KNOWN AS
1343 RANDOLPH STREET, NW,
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20011

By virtue of a certain Commercial Deed of Trust, Assignment of Rents and Security Agreement dated July 28, 2021 (the "Deed of Trust") duly recorded August 5, 2021 as Instrument No. 2021105934 among the Land Records of the District of Columbia (the "Land Records") and subsequently modified by a certain Modification of Deed of Trust dated July 19, 2022 and duly recorded August 3, 2022 as Instrument No. 2022082377 (as modified, the "Deed of Trust") and in accordance with Public Law 90-566 notice recorded among the Land Record as Instrument No. 2023065968, a default having occurred in the payment of the indebtedness secured thereby and the covenants contained therein, and at the request of the party secured thereby (the "Noteholder"), the undersigned Substitute Trustees, will sell, at public auction, within the office of ALEX COOPER AUCTIONEERS, INC., 4910 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, N.W., SUITE 100, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20016 on

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2023 AT 2:42 PM

the following described land and premises.
All that piece or parcel of land, together with improvements, rights, privileges, and appurtenances to the same belonging, situated in the District of Columbia, and is described as follows:
The West 27.74 feet front on Randolph Street by the full depth thereof of Lot 100 in Square 2824, in a subdivision made by Jacob S. Gruver and others, as per plat recorded in Liber No. 65, folio 30 of the Records of the Office of the Surveyor for the District of Columbia.
Parcel ID: 2824-0820
As of the date hereof, the above-described land is designated on the Records of the Assessor for the District of Columbia for assessment and taxation purposes as Lot numbered 820, in Square numbered 2824.
Also known as 1343 Randolph Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20011
TOGETHER WITH any and all buildings, structures, improvements or appurtenances now erected on the above-described land, including, without limitation, all equipment, apparatus, machinery and fixtures of any kind or character forming a part of said buildings, structures, improvements or appurtenances, and any furniture, furnishings, equipment, machinery and other personal property owned and located in, upon or about the above-described land and any buildings thereon all as more particularly described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust (the "Property").
TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. The Property will be offered as an entirety only. The bid which yields the highest price for the Property will be accepted by the Substitute Trustees (unless the sale is postponed or cancelled) and all bids will be provisional until acceptance. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Substitute Trustees absolutely reserve the right to postpone the sale and/or cancel the sale at any time until the auctioneer announces that the Property is "sold" and the deposit in the required amount and form is received by the Substitute Trustees. A deposit in the amount of $50,000.00 will be required at the time of sale. Such deposit must be by cashier's check or certified check or in such other form as the Substitute Trustees may determine in their sole discretion. The deposit must be increased to 10% of the winning bid amount and delivered to the Substitute Trustees within one business day after the consummation of the sale in the same form of funds as the initial deposit. Failure to timely tender the deposit shall constitute a material default by the purchaser. The Noteholder secured by the Deed of Trust (or any related party) shall be exempted by the Substitute Trustees from submitting any bidding deposit. The Substitute Trustees will, as a condition of the sale, require all potential bidders except the Noteholder to show their deposit before any bidding begins. The retained deposit of the successful purchaser shall be applied, without interest, to the successful purchaser's credit at settlement, provided, however, that in the event the successful purchaser fails to consummate the purchase in accordance with the terms of sale as herein provided, such deposit, at the option of the Substitute Trustees, shall immediately be forfeited. The terms of sale must be complied with and settlement consummated thereon within 15 days from day of sale unless extended at the sole discretion of the Substitute Trustees. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. The balance of the purchase price over and above the retained deposit, with interest thereon at the note rate then being charged from the date of sale through the date of receipt of the balance of the purchase price, will be due at settlement in certified funds; and if not so paid by the time specified herein, the Substitute Trustees reserve the right to retain the deposit and resell the Property at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser, after such advertisement and on such terms as the Substitute Trustees may deem proper, and to avail themselves and the Noteholder of any legal or equitable rights against the defaulting purchaser.
The Property is sold subject to the rights, if any, of parties in possession, if such rights have priority over the Deed of Trust, and to any and all covenants, conditions, restrictions, easements, rights of way, and limitations of record. The Property will be sold "WHERE IS" and in "AS IS" condition without any warranty or representation as to condition, express or implied, and without any representation or warranty as to the accuracy of the information furnished to prospective bidders by the Substitute Trustees or any other party and without any other representations or warranty of any nature. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Property will be sold without representation or warranty as to (i) title to the Property, (ii) the nature, condition, compliance, quality, structural integrity, or fitness for a particular use of any improvements, fixtures or personal property included within the Property, (iii) the environmental condition of the Property or the compliance of the Property with federal, state and local laws and regulations concerning the presence or disposal of hazardous substances, (iv) compliance of the Property with the Americans with Disabilities Act or any similar law, or (v) compliance of the Property with any zoning and construction laws or ordinances and any and all applicable safety and building codes and regulations, and acceptance of the Deed to the Property by the successful purchaser shall constitute a waiver of any claims against the Substitute Trustees or the Noteholder concerning any of the foregoing matters. The successful purchaser recognizes that any investigation, examination or inspection of the Property is within the control of the owner or other parties in possession of the Property and not within the control of the Substitute Trustees or the Noteholder.
Conveyance shall be by Substitute Trustees' Deed, without any covenant or warranty, express or implied. The risk of loss or damage by fire or other casualty to the Property from and after the date of sale will be upon the successful purchaser. Sold subject to all taxes, ground rents, public charges, assessments, violations, liens, sewer, water, drainage and other public improvements whether assessments have been levied or not and whether such have been recorded or not. The Noteholder and Substitute Trustees assume no liability for fuel, gas, electricity, water and sewer charges, utilities and other operating charges accrued before or after the sale and all such charges shall be the sole responsibility of the purchaser from the date of sale. All costs incident to the settlement and conveyancing including, without limitation, examination of title, conveyancing, all recordation taxes and charges, all transfer taxes and charges, title insurance premiums, financing charges and fees, notary fees, settlement fees and all other costs incident to settlement shall be at the cost of the successful purchaser. If the Substitute Trustees cannot convey title, the purchaser's sole remedy is a return of deposit. Further particulars may be announced at the time of sale. For further information, please contact Jung Kim, Esquire at 202-900-8595.

Jung Kim, Esquire
Frances Wilburn, Esquire
Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
4910 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. • Suite 100
Washington, DC 20016 • 202.364.0306
www.alexcooper.com

Sep 4,6,8,11,13 2023 0012432252

840 Trustees Sale - DC

Pardo & Drazin, LLC
Russell S. Drazin, Attorney
4400 Jenifer Street, NW, Suite 2
Washington, DC 20015
202-223-7900

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE
OF REAL PROPERTY
[no street number] 49th Street, NE
Washington, DC 20019
Lot 0055 in Square 5178

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust, Assignment of Rents and Security Agreement ("Deed of Trust") dated June 28, 2019 and recorded on July 30, 2019 as Instrument No. 2019079931, from Reno 809 LLC, as grantor, to Steven M. Sushner, as trustee, for the benefit of Rainman Capital LLC, as beneficiary, securing that certain Commercial Balloon Promissory Note dated June 28, 2019 in the principal amount of $55,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, and following the mailing and recordation of a Deed of Appointment of Substitute Trustee removing Steven M. Sushner as trustee and appointing Russell S. Drazin ("Substitute Trustee") as successor trustee, an Affidavit of Non-Residential Mortgage Foreclosure, and a Notice of Foreclosure Sale of Real Property or Condominium Unit, at the request of the current noteholder, Substitute Trustee will sell at public auction at the office of Harvey West Auctioneers, Inc., 5335 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Suite 440, Washington, DC 20015, on

SEPTEMBER 12, 2023 AT 2:20 PM

ALL THAT LOT OF GROUND AND THE IMPROVEMENTS THEREON (if any) situated in the City of Washington, District of Columbia, known as [no street number] 49th Street, NE, Washington, DC 20019 (Lot 0055 in Square 5178), and more fully described in the Deed of Trust.
The property will be sold in an "AS IS" condition, with no warranty of any kind, and subject to conditions, restrictions, agreements, liens, and encumbrances of record affecting the same - except those encumbrances of record that are extinguished by operation of District of Columbia law by virtue of the foreclosure of the Deed of Trust.
Purchaser will take title to the property subject to all taxes, water and sewer charges, and other utility charges, if any. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property.
TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of $15,000.00 by cashier's check will be required of purchaser at the time and place of sale. Purchaser shall settle within thirty (30) days of sale.

TIME SHALL BE OF THE ESSENCE WITH RESPECT TO SETTLEMENT BY PURCHASER. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash or certified funds at settlement. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money from the date of sale to the date of settlement at the applicable interest rate set forth in the debt instrument secured by the Deed of Trust.
Purchaser shall be responsible for payment of all settlement costs.
The noteholder and its affiliates, if a bidder, shall not be required to post a deposit or to pay interest.
In the event that purchaser does not settle as required for any reason, purchaser shall be in default. Upon such default, the deposit shall be forfeited to Substitute Trustee and all of the expenses of this sale (including legal fees and costs, and full commission on the gross sale price) shall be charged against and paid out of the forfeited deposit. Substitute Trustee may resell the property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser. The defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds or profits resulting from any resale of the property. Defaulting purchaser shall be liable to Substitute Trustee for legal fees and costs incurred by Substitute Trustee in connection with such default.
If Substitute Trustee is unable to settle as set forth herein, purchasers sole remedy at law and in equity shall be limited to a refund of the deposit and the sale shall be considered null and void and of no effect whatsoever.
Substitute Trustee reserves the right, in Substitute Trustee's sole discretion, to reject any and all bids, to withdraw the property from sale at any time before or at the auction, to extend the time to receive bids, to waive or modify the deposit requirement, to waive or modify the requirement that interest be paid on the unpaid purchase money, and/or to extend the period of time for settlement.
Additional terms may be announced at the sale. The successful bidder will be required to execute and deliver to Substitute Trustee a memorandum or contract of the sale at the conclusion of bidding.

Russell S. Drazin, Substitute Trustee

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, INC.
5335 Wisconsin Ave., NW, Ste 440
Washington, DC 20015
202-463-4567
www.hwestauctions.com

Aug 29,31,Sep 4,6,8 2023 0012432659

850 Montgomery County

MCMICHAEL TAYLOR GRAY, LLC
7470 Technology Way
Suite P
Frederick, MD 21703
(470) 480-1820

TRUSTEE'S SALE
3908 DUNES WAY
Burtonsville, MD 20866

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated April 5, 2007 and recorded in Deed Book 35547 at Page 430 among the Land Records of **MONTGOMERY COUNTY**, Maryland, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction at the MONTGOMERY COUNTY, 50 MARYLAND AVENUE, ROCKVILLE, MD 20850, on

SEPTEMBER 20, 2023 AT 12:45 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with the buildings and improvements thereon situated in MONTGOMERY COUNTY, Maryland, located at the above address and more fully described in the aforementioned Deed of Trust (the "Property").

TAX ID#: 05-02798956

Said property is subject to a prior mortgage.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of $13,000 by cashier's/certified check or such other form as the Substitute Trustee may allow, in their sole discretion, required at time of sale except for the party secured by the Deed of Trust. Risk of loss on purchaser from date and time of auction. The property and improvements will be sold in "as is" physical condition without either express or implied warranty of any kind and subject to all conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate of 8% from the date of sale to the date funds are received in the office of the Substitute Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason.

TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, including water/sewer charges and ground rent, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale forward. Cost of all documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the Property. If the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey title for any reason, the purchaser's sole remedy in law and equity shall be limited to a refund of the deposit without interest. If the Purchaser defaults, the deposit shall be forfeited to the Substitute Trustees for application against all expenses, attorney's fees and the full commission on the sale price of the above-scheduled foreclosure sale. In the event of default, all expenses of this sale (including attorney's fees and the full commission on the gross sale price of this sale) shall be charged against and paid out of the forfeited deposit. The Trustees may then re-advertise and resell the Property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser or may avail themselves of any legal or equitable remedies against the defaulting purchaser without re-selling the Property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive the surplus, if any, even if such surplus results from improvements to the Property by said defaulting purchaser and the defaulting purchaser shall be liable to the Trustees and secured party for reasonable attorney's fees and expenses incurred in connection with all litigation involving the Property or the proceeds of the resale. This sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan secured by the Deed of Trust including, but not limited to, determining whether prior to sale a bankruptcy was filed; forbearance, repayment or other agreement was entered into; or the loan was reinstated or paid off. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void and Purchaser's sole remedy shall be return of deposit without interest.

DIANA THEOLOGOU, GREGORY THORNE,
ADRIAN JACOBS, BRIAN CAMPBELL,
CHRISTINE COTTON,
Substitute Trustees

File No.: 23-000132-01

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Sep 1,8,15 2023 0012432837

MCMICHAEL TAYLOR GRAY, LLC
7470 Technology Way
Suite P
Frederick, MD 21703
(470) 480-1820

TRUSTEE'S SALE
3053 SHEPPERTON TERRACE
Silver Spring, MD 20904

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated December 20, 2006 and recorded in Deed Book 33538 at Page 530 among the Land Records of **MONTGOMERY COUNTY**, Maryland, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction at the MONTGOMERY COUNTY, 50 MARYLAND AVENUE, ROCKVILLE, MD 20850, on

SEPTEMBER 20, 2023 AT 12:45 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with the buildings and improvements thereon situated in MONTGOMERY COUNTY, Maryland, located at the above address and more fully described in the aforementioned Deed of Trust (the "Property").

TAX ID#: 05-02175993

Said property is subject to a prior mortgage.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of $7,500 by cashier's/certified check or such other form as the Substitute Trustee may allow, in their sole discretion, required at time of sale except for the party secured by the Deed of Trust. Risk of loss on purchaser from date and time of auction. The property and improvements will be sold in "as is" physical condition without either express or implied warranty of any kind and subject to all conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate of 8% from the date of sale to the date funds are received in the office of the Substitute Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason.

TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, including water/sewer charges and ground rent, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale forward. Cost of all documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the Property. If the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey title for any reason, the purchaser's sole remedy in law and equity shall be limited to a refund of the deposit without interest. If the Purchaser defaults, the deposit shall be forfeited to the Substitute Trustees for application against all expenses, attorney's fees and the full commission on the sale price of the above-scheduled foreclosure sale. In the event of default, all expenses of this sale (including attorney's fees and the full commission on the gross sale price of this sale) shall be charged against and paid out of the forfeited deposit. The Trustees may then re-advertise and resell the Property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser or may avail themselves of any legal or equitable remedies against the defaulting purchaser without re-selling the Property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive the surplus, if any, even if such surplus results from improvements to the Property by said defaulting purchaser and the defaulting purchaser shall be liable to the Trustees and secured party for reasonable attorney's fees and expenses incurred in connection with all litigation involving the Property or the proceeds of the resale. This sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan secured by the Deed of Trust including, but not limited to, determining whether prior to sale a bankruptcy was filed; forbearance, repayment or other agreement was entered into; or the loan was reinstated or paid off. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void and Purchaser's sole remedy shall be return of deposit without interest.

Diana Theologou, Gregory Thorne,
Adrian Jacobs, Brian Campbell,
Christine Cotton,
Substitute Trustees

File No.: 23-000830-01

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Sep 1,8,15 2023 0012432681

850 Montgomery County

MCMICHAEL TAYLOR GRAY, LLC
7470 Technology Way
Suite P
Frederick, MD 21703
(470) 480-1820

TRUSTEE'S SALE
12248 BOND STREET
Silver Spring, MD 20902

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated March 21, 2012 and recorded in Deed Book 43819 at Page 51 among the Land Records of MONTGOMERY COUNTY, Maryland, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction at the MONTGOMERY COUNTY, 50 MARYLAND AVENUE, ROCKVILLE, MD 20850, on

SEPTEMBER 20, 2023 AT 12:45 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with the buildings and improvements thereon situated in MONTGOMERY COUNTY, Maryland, located at the above address and more fully described in the aforementioned Deed of Trust (the "Property").

TAX ID#: 13-1228425

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of $21,000 by cashier's/certified check or such other form as the Substitute Trustee may allow, in their sole discretion, required at time of sale except for the party secured by the Deed of Trust. Risk of loss on purchaser from date and time of auction. The property and improvements will be sold in "as is" physical condition without either express or implied warranty of any kind and subject to all conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate of 8.24% from the date of sale to the date funds are received in the office of the Substitute Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason.

TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, including water/sewer charges and ground rent, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale forward. Cost of all documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the Property. If the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey title for any reason, the purchaser's sole remedy in law and equity shall be limited to a refund of the deposit without interest. If the Purchaser defaults, the deposit shall be forfeited to the Substitute Trustees for application against all expenses, attorney's fees and the full commission on the sale price of the above-scheduled foreclosure sale. In the event of default, all expenses of this sale (including attorney's fees and the full commission on the gross sale price of this sale) shall be charged against and paid out of the forfeited deposit. The Trustees may then re-advertise and resell the Property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser or may avail themselves of any legal or equitable remedies against the defaulting purchaser without re-selling the Property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive the surplus, if any, even if such surplus results from improvements to the Property by said defaulting purchaser and the defaulting purchaser shall be liable to the Trustees and secured party for reasonable attorney's fees and expenses incurred in connection with all litigation involving the Property or the proceeds of the resale. This sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan secured by the Deed of Trust including, but not limited to, determining whether prior to sale a bankruptcy was filed; forbearance, repayment or other agreement was entered into; or the loan was reinstated or paid off. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void and Purchaser's sole remedy shall be return of deposit without interest.

DIANA THEOLOGOU, GREGORY THORNE,
ADRIAN JACOBS, BRIAN CAMPBELL,
CHRISTINE COTTON,
Substitute Trustees

File No.: 23-000072-01

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Sep 1,8,15 2023 0012432680

MCMICHAEL TAYLOR GRAY, LLC
7470 Technology Way
Suite P
Frederick, MD 21703
(470) 480-1820

TRUSTEE'S SALE
2212 COLD MEADOW WAY
Silver Spring, MD 20906

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated July 26, 2006 and recorded in Deed Book 32779 at Page 799 among the Land Records of **MONTGOMERY COUNTY**, Maryland, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction at the MONTGOMERY COUNTY, 50 MARYLAND AVENUE, ROCKVILLE, MD 20850, on

SEPTEMBER 20, 2023 AT 12:45 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with the buildings and improvements thereon situated in MONTGOMERY COUNTY, Maryland, located at the above address and more fully described in the aforementioned Deed of Trust (the "Property").

TAX ID#: 13-02988598

Said property is subject to a IRS Right of Redemption.

Said property is subject to a prior mortgage.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of $32,000 by cashier's/certified check or such other form as the Substitute Trustee may allow, in their sole discretion, required at time of sale except for the party secured by the Deed of Trust. Risk of loss on purchaser from date and time of auction. The property and improvements will be sold in "as is" physical condition without either express or implied warranty of any kind and subject to all conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate of 7% from the date of sale to the date funds are received in the office of the Substitute Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason.

TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, including water/sewer charges and ground rent, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale forward. Cost of all documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the Property. If the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey title for any reason, the purchaser's sole remedy in law and equity shall be limited to a refund of the deposit without interest. If the Purchaser defaults, the deposit shall be forfeited to the Substitute Trustees for application against all expenses, attorney's fees and the full commission on the sale price of the above-scheduled foreclosure sale. In the event of default, all expenses of this sale (including attorney's fees and the full commission on the gross sale price of this sale) shall be charged against and paid out of the forfeited deposit. The Trustees may then re-advertise and resell the Property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser or may avail themselves of any legal or equitable remedies against the defaulting purchaser without re-selling the Property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive the surplus, if any, even if such surplus results from improvements to the Property by said defaulting purchaser and the defaulting purchaser shall be liable to the Trustees and secured party for reasonable attorney's fees and expenses incurred in connection with all litigation involving the Property or the proceeds of the resale. This sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan secured by the Deed of Trust including, but not limited to, determining whether prior to sale a bankruptcy was filed; forbearance, repayment or other agreement was entered into; or the loan was reinstated or paid off. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void and Purchaser's sole remedy shall be return of deposit without interest.

DIANA THEOLOGOU, GREGORY THORNE,
ADRIAN JACOBS, BRIAN CAMPBELL,
CHRISTINE COTTON,
Substitute Trustees

File No.: 23-000281-01

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Sep 1,8,15 2023 0012432678

851 Prince Georges County | 851 Prince Georges County

MCMICHAEL TAYLOR GRAY, LLC
7470 Technology Way
Suite P
Frederick, MD 21703
(470) 480-1820

TRUSTEE'S SALE
5801 SAN JUAN DRIVE
Clinton, MD 20735

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated June 14, 2007 and recorded in Deed Book 28102 at Page 634 among the Land Records of **PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY**, Maryland, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction at the PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, FRONT OF THE DUVAL WING OF THE COURTHOUSE COMPLEX 14735 MAIN ST, UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20772, on

SEPTEMBER 12, 2023 AT 1:45 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with the buildings and improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, Maryland, located at the above address and more fully described in the aforementioned Deed of Trust (the "Property").

TAX ID#: 09-0990226
Said property is subject to a IRS Right of Redemption.

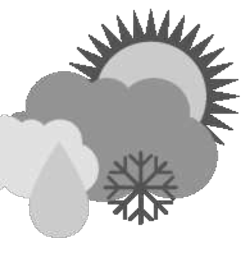
TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of $8,000 by cashier's/certified check or such other form as the Substitute Trustee may allow, in their sole discretion, required at time of sale except for the party secured by the Deed of Trust. Risk of loss on purchaser from date and time of auction. The property and improvements will be sold in "as is" physical condition without either express or implied warranty of any kind and subject to all conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate of 7.1% from the date of sale to the date funds are received in the office of the Substitute Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason.

TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, including water/sewer charges and ground rent, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale forward. Cost of all documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the Property. If the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey title for any reason, the purchaser's sole remedy in law and equity shall be limited to a refund of the deposit without interest. If the Purchaser defaults, the deposit shall be forfeited to the Substitute Trustees for application against all expenses, attorney's fees and the full commission on the sale price of the above-scheduled foreclosure sale. In the event of default, all expenses of this sale (including attorney's fees and the full commission on the gross sale price of this sale) shall be charged against and paid out of the forfeited deposit. The Trustees may then re-advertise and resell the Property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser or may avail themselves of any legal or equitable remedies against the defaulting purchaser without re-selling the Property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive the surplus, if any, even if such surplus results from improvements to the Property by said defaulting purchaser and the defaulting purchaser shall be liable to the Trustees and secured party for reasonable attorney's fees and expenses incurred in connection with all litigation involving the Property or the proceeds of the resale. This sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan secured by the Deed of Trust including, but not limited to, determining whether prior to sale a bankruptcy was filed; forbearance, repayment or other agreement was entered into; or the loan was reinstated or paid off. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void and Purchaserâ€™s sole remedy shall be return of deposit without interest.

DIANA THEOLOGOU, GREGORY THORNE,
ADRIAN JACOBS, BRIAN CAMPBELL,
CHRISTINE COTTON,
Substitute Trustees
File No.: 23-000077-01

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Aug 25,Sep 1,8 2023 L0011269


sweater or **tank top?**

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S0141 2x3

851 Prince Georges County | 851 Prince Georges County

TRUSTEE'S SALE

2006 Whistling Duck Drive, Upper Marlboro, MD 20774

Trustee's Sale of valuable fee simple property improved by premises known as 2006 Whistling Duck Drive, Upper Marlboro, MD 20774. By virtue of the power and authority contained in a Deed of Trust, dated April 13, 2006, and recorded in Liber 25127 at Page 690 among the land records of the **County of Prince George's**, in the original principal amount of $399,000.00. Upon default and request for sale, the undersigned trustees will offer for sale at public auction at the Courthouse for the COUNTY OF PRINCE GEORGE'S, at the front of the Duval Wing of the Courthouse Complex located at 14735 Main Street, Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772, on **September 19, 2023 at 2:00 PM**, all that property described in said Deed of Trust including but not limited to:

Tax ID# 03-3022910

Said property is in fee simple and is improved by a dwelling and is sold in "as is condition" and subject to all superior covenants, conditions, liens, restrictions, easement, rights-of-way, as may affect same, if any.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of 10% of the sale price, cash or certified funds shall be required at the time of sale. The balance of the purchase price with interest at 6.00% per annum from the date of sale to the date of payment will be paid within TEN DAYS after the final ratification of the sale.

Adjustments on all taxes, public charges and special or regular assessments will be made as of the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser.

If applicable, condominium and/or homeowners association dues and assessments that may become due after the time of sale will be the responsibility of the purchaser. Title examination, conveyancing, state revenue stamps, transfer taxes, title insurance, and all other costs incident to settlement are to be paid by the purchaser. Time is of the essence for the purchaser, otherwise the deposit will be forfeited and the property may be resold at risk and costs of the defaulting purchaser. If the sale is not ratified or if the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey marketable title in accord with these terms of sale, the purchaser's only remedy is the return of the deposit. Trustee's File No. 22-290994.

William M. Savage, et al., Substitute Trustees
LOGS LEGAL GROUP LLP, 10021 Balls Ford Road, Suite 200,
Manassas, Virginia 20109
(410) 769-9797

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Sep 1,8,15 2023 L0011372

852 Anne Arundel County | 852 Anne Arundel County

ORLANS PC
1602 VILLAGE MARKET BLVD. SE, SUITE 310
LEESBURG, VA 20175
703-777-7101
SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE
OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY
771 Generals Highway
Millersville, MD 21108

Under a power of sale contained in a Deed of Trust from HOPE EVETTE MYRICK, dated September 11, 2020 and recorded in Liber 35282, folio 32 among the Land Records of **ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY**, MD, default having occurred thereunder (Foreclosure Case docketed as Case No.C-02-CV-22-001771; Tax ID No.02-000-09907000) the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY COURTHOUSE, located at 8 CHURCH CIR, ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401, on

SEPTEMBER 13, 2023 at 10:00 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MD and more fully described in above referenced Deed of Trust.

The property will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit $45,000.00 will be required at the time of sale, such deposit to be in CERTIFIED CHECK OR BY CASHIER'S CHECK, CASH WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY. Time is of the essence as to the purchaser. If the purchaser defaults, the deposit shall be forfeited and the property shall be resold at the purchaser's risk and expense. The purchaser waives personal service and accepts service by first class mail and certified mail addressed to the address provided by said Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale for any Motion or Show Cause Order incident to this sale including a Motion to Default Purchaser and for Resale of the Property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive any benefit from the resale, including, but not limited to, additional proceeds or surplus which may arise therefrom. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate pursuant to the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered at the time of sale or any time prior to settlement or if the settlement is delayed for any reason. In the event that the Secured Party executes a forbearance agreement with the borrower(s) described in the above-mentioned Deed of Trust, or allows the borrower(s) to execute their right to reinstate or payoff the subject loan, prior to the sale, with or without the Substitute Trustee's prior knowledge, this Contract shall be null and void and of no effect, and the Purchaser's sole remedy shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Purchaser shall pay for documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses. Taxes, ground rent, water rent, condominium fees and/or homeowner association dues, all public charges/assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. If the Substitute Trustee(s) are unable to convey insurable title for any reason, the purchaser(s) sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to a refund of the aforementioned deposit without interest. In the event the sale is not ratified for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is the return of the deposit without interest. (File # 22-006137)

JAMES E. CLARKE,
CHRISTINE M. DREXEL,
JOANNA FORONDA,
SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES
A181, A316, A311, A183, A425, A426, A461, A463, A508

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Aug 25,Sep 1,8 2023 L0011329

852 Anne Arundel County | 852 Anne Arundel County

Brock and Scott, PLLC
5431 Oleander Drive
Wilmington NC, 28403
SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF
VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY
KNOWN AS
7804 MANET WAY
Severn, MD 21144

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust to CHICAGO TITLE INSURANCE COMPANY, Trustee(s), dated August 29, 2006, and recorded among the Land Records of **ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY**, MARYLAND in Liber 18263, folio 494, MODIFIED OCTOBER 16, 2008 IN BOOK 23964, PAGE 476, the holder of the indebtedness secured by this Deed of Trust having appointed the undersigned Substitute Trustees, by instrument duly recorded among the aforesaid Land Records, default having occurred under the terms thereof, and at the request of the party secured thereby, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction at THE ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 8 CHURCH CIR, ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401 ON,

SEPTEMBER 12, 2023 at 9:45 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MD and described as follows:

BEING KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS LOT 29R, BLOCK EE AS SHOWN ON PLAT ENTITLED "SHEET 2 OF 2", ADMINISTRATIVE LOT LINE CHANGE, RESUBDIVISION OF LOTS 25-45, 47 AND 49 (NOW 25R-44R, 47R AND 49R) BLOCK EE, LOTS 1-6 (NOW 1R-5R) BLOCK FF, SECTION 8, PLAT 20, "THE PROVINCES", WHICH PLAT IS RECORDED AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY IN PLAT BOOK 144, PAGE 31. THE IMPROVEMENTS THEREON NOW KNOWN AS 7804 MANET WAY, SEVERN, MD 21144

The property will be sold in an "AS IS WHERE IS" condition without either express or implied warranty or representation, including but not limited to the description, fitness for a particular purpose or use, structural integrity, physical condition, construction, extent of construction, workmanship, materials, liability, zoning, subdivision, environmental condition, merchantability, compliance with building or housing codes or other laws, ordinances or regulations, or other similar matters, and subject to easements, agreements and restrictions of record which affect the same, if any. The property will be sold subject to all conditions, liens, restrictions and agreements of record affecting same including any condominium and of HOA assessments pursuant to Md Real Property Article 11-110.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of $37,000.00 payable in certified check or by a cashier's check will be required from purchaser at time of sale, balance in immediately available funds upon final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court of ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND interest to be paid at the rate of 3.75% on unpaid purchase money from date of sale to date of settlement. The secured party herein, if a bidder, shall not be required to post a deposit. Third party purchaser (excluding the secured party) will be required to complete full settlement of the purchase of the property within TEN (10) CALENDAR DAYS of the ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court otherwise the purchaser's deposit shall be forfeited and the property will be resold at the risk and expense, of the defaulting purchaser. All other public charges and private charges or assessments, including water/sewer charges, ground rent, taxes if any, to be adjusted to date of sale. Cost of all documentary stamps and transfer taxes and all other costs incident to the settlement shall be borne by the purchaser. If applicable, condominium and/or homeowner association dues and assessments will be adjusted to date of sale. If the sale is rescinded or not ratified for any reason, including post sale lender audit, or the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey insurable title or a resale is to take place for any reason, the purchaser(s) sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to the refund of the aforementioned deposit. The purchaser waives all rights and claims against the Substitute Trustees whether known or unknown. These provisions shall survive settlement Upon refund of the deposit, this sale shall be void and of no effect, and the purchaser shall have no further claim against the Substitute Trustees. The sale is subject to post-sale review of the status of the loan and that if any agreement to cancel the sale was entered into by the lender and borrower prior to the sale then the sale is void and the purchaser's deposit shall be refunded without interest. Additional terms and conditions, if applicable, maybe announced at the time and date of sale. Sale is subject to the attestation by the Borrower in accordance with Section 5.A of the Governor's order of 10.16.2020 . File No. (22-08863)

JOHN ANSELL, JEREMY B. WILKINS,
ROBERT A. OLIVERI, AMANDA DRISCOLE,
PAUL HEINMULLER, JOHN C. HANRAHAN,
KRISTOPHER HAWKINS, Substitute Trustees
A181, A316, A311, A183, A425, A426, A461, A463, A508

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
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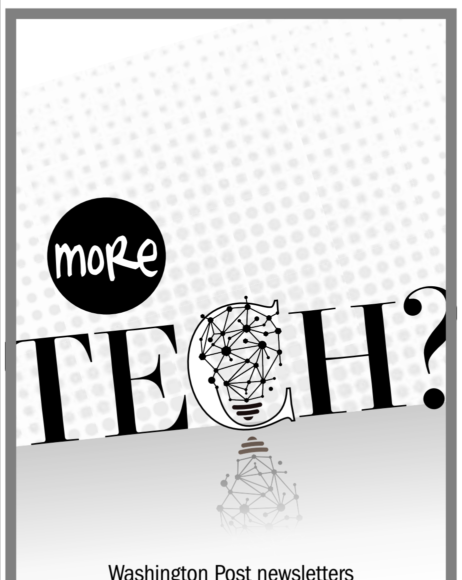
Aug 25,Sep 1,8 2023 L0011358



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855 Charles County | 855 Charles County

MCMICHAEL TAYLOR GRAY, LLC
7470 Technology Way
Suite P
Frederick, MD 21703
(470) 480-1820

TRUSTEE'S SALE
4269 PIPER LANE
Marbury, MD 20658

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust dated December 6, 2012 and recorded in Deed Book 8026 at Page 0072 among the Land Records of **CHARLES COUNTY**, Maryland, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction at the CHARLES COUNTY, 200 CHARLES STREET (IN THE BREEZEWAY BETWEEN CIRCUIT AND DISTRICT COURTS), LA PLATA, MD 20646, on

SEPTEMBER 26, 2023 AT 12:00 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND, together with the buildings and improvements thereon situated in CHARLES COUNTY, Maryland, located at the above address and more fully described in the aforementioned Deed of Trust (the "Property").

TAX ID#: 10-004411

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of $18,000 by cashier's/certified check or such other form as the Substitute Trustee may allow, in their sole discretion, required at time of sale except for the party secured by the Deed of Trust. Risk of loss on purchaser from date and time of auction. The property and improvements will be sold in "as is" physical condition without either express or implied warranty of any kind and subject to all conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate of 3.25% from the date of sale to the date funds are received in the office of the Substitute Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason.

TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, including water/sewer charges and ground rent, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale forward. Cost of all documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the Property. If the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey title for any reason, the purchaser's sole remedy in law and equity shall be limited to a refund of the deposit without interest. If the Purchaser defaults, the deposit shall be forfeited to the Substitute Trustees for application against all expenses, attorney's fees and the full commission on the sale price of the above-scheduled foreclosure sale. In the event of default, all expenses of this sale (including attorney's fees and the full commission on the gross sale price of this sale) shall be charged against and paid out of the forfeited deposit. The Trustees may then re-advertise and resell the Property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser or may avail themselves of any legal or equitable remedies against the defaulting purchaser without re-selling the Property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive the surplus, if any, even if such surplus results from improvements to the Property by said defaulting purchaser and the defaulting purchaser shall be liable to the Trustees and secured party for reasonable attorney's fees and expenses incurred in connection with all litigation involving the Property or the proceeds of the resale. This sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan secured by the Deed of Trust including, but not limited to, determining whether prior to sale a bankruptcy was filed; forbearance, repayment or other agreement was entered into; or the loan was reinstated or paid off. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void and Purchaser's sole remedy shall be return of deposit without interest.

DIANA THEOLOGOU, GREGORY THORNE,
ADRIAN JACBOS, BRIAN CAMPBELL,
CHRISTINE COTTON,
Substitute Trustees

File No.: 23-000170-01

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Sep 8,15,22 2023 0012433591

856 Frederick County | 856 Frederick County

Robertson, Anschutz,
Schneid & Crane, LLC
11350 McCormick Road, EP 1, Suite 302
Hunt Valley, MD 21031
470-321-7112

TRUSTEES' SALE OF
VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE
PROPERTY
KNOWN AS
1601 COLONIAL WAY
FREDERICK, MD 21702

Under a power of sale contained in that Deed of Trust dated January 8, 2007, and recorded in Liber 6534, folio 560, of the land records of **FREDERICK COUNTY** , with an original principal balance of $239,500.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the appointed Substitute Trustees will offer for sale at public auction at THE FREDERICK COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 100 W. PATRICK ST, FREDERICK, MD 21701 ON,

SEPTEMBER 19, 2023 at 10:15 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND together with any buildings or improvements thereon situated in FREDERICK COUNTY, MD, located at the above address and more fully described in the aforementioned Deed of Trust.

TAX ID# - 02-025493

The property and improvements will be sold in an "AS IS" physical condition without warranty of any kind and subject to all conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, including any condominium or homeowners association assessments pursuant to MD Real Property Article Â§ 11-110 and Â§ 11B-117 .

TERMS OF SALE: A non-refundable bidder's deposit of $28,500.00 by cashier's/certified check or such other form as the Substitute Trustee may determine, in their sole discretion, required at time of sale except for the party secured by the Deed of Trust. Risk of loss on purchaser from date and time of auction. The balance of the purchase price together with interest thereon at 7.65% per annum from date of sale to receipt of purchase price by Substitute Trustees must be paid by cashier's check within 10 days after final ratification of sale. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. There will be no abatement of interest due from the purchaser in the event that additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. All real estate taxes and other public charges and/or assessments to be adjusted as of the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. If applicable, any condominium and/or homeowners association dues and assessments that may become due after the date of sale shall be purchaser's responsibility. Purchaser shall pay all transfer, documentary and recording taxes/fees and all other settlement costs. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining possession of the property. Time is of the essence for the purchaser. If purchaser defaults, deposit will be forfeited and property resold at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser who shall be liable for any deficiency in the purchase price and all costs, expenses and attorney's fees of both sales. If Substitute Trustees do not convey title for any reason, purchaser's sole remedy is return of deposit without interest. This sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan secured by the Deed of Trust including but not limited to determining whether prior to sale a bankruptcy was filed; forbearance, repayment or other agreement was entered into; or loan was reinstated or paid off. In any such event this sale shall be null and void and purchaser's sole remedy shall be return of deposit without interest. File No. (18-222728)

KEITH YACKO, THOMAS GARTNER,
DAVID WILLIAMSON, BRYSON STEPHEN,
Substitute Trustees

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300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
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